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THE TIMES

The disturbing change in President Assad's style, page 16

Steel men start work tomorrow after 13-week strike

ongest national strike in 's postwar history has after 13 weeks. Steelmen egin reporting for work ow after union leaders voted to accept a 16 per cent pay award. The British Steel Corporation is unlikely to resume full production for another six weeks. A new battle over job cuts is expected.

Battle over jobs expected

Routledge
editor

g steel men are going their plants at 6 am after their leaders y voted to accept the nt award of the Lever r the industry's pay

d to the longest na- ke in post-war history lled by a 41-27 vote tors of the main steel e Iron and Steel onfederation to en- findings of the inde- committee of inquiry strike, which has weeks.

e by lay negotiators imously put into of- a joint meeting of of the ISTC and the Union of Blastfurnace- ight.

itish Steel Corpora- cts to be able to ne of its rolling acti- g steel from stock in undisturbed since began on January 2. take up to six weeks giant blastfurnaces iron to the steel- be fully operational.

reluctant return to e followed by a new BSC's plant closure Mr William Sirs, retary of the ISTC, hat both unions have vote of "no confi- the BSC management on a full inquiry management of the

my executive if we o back to work, it ird our loins so that truggle we will be nes over jobs, which portant. It means cisions that the cor- s taken. I only hope whole of the trade ement will be pre- and and fight as we

to the strike came nt pickets opposed out" of the union's 20 per cent claim had burst into ISTC headquarters, occupying much of the building as their leaders wrestled with the dilemma of acceptance posed by an award from the Lever inquiry much lower than they had hoped for.

The pickets physically ejected several journalists waiting in the lobby, and delayed the start of the crucial joint executive meeting of the ISTC and NUB leaders. Three pickets were led away by police after turbulent scenes in the pouring rain outside Swinton House, the ISTC headquarters in King's Cross.

Steel union leaders expect that some of their members will refuse to turn up for work, but once the value of the package negotiated with BSC management after the Lever inquiry is appreciated they are confident of a return to work by early next week. Some union members engaged on picketing duties are dispersed as far apart as Wick in the north of Scotland and Topsham, Devon, in the search for "unauthorized" landings of steel products designed to beat the union blockade.

Addressing the press last night after the marathon dispute, Mr Sirs gave details of the votes and calculated the value of BSC's offer at 11 per cent across the board plus 4.95 per cent on productivity bonuses. On top of that there was a further 1 per cent on pensions and holidays, and he disclosed that steelworkers will get a £50 lump sum as soon as they go back as an advance sum payment for productivity increases.

The unions are also drawing some comfort from a disclosure during the Lever inquiry hearing that the productivity bonuses will be paid as soon as an agreement is reached at local level—whether the actual increase in output is achieved or not.

The unions regard the outcome of the long and bitter strike as an honourable draw rather than a defeat. They have conceded BSC's insistence that much of their wage rises must come from locally determined productivity improvements, but they point to a shift from 2 per cent to 11 per cent in the general increase that all the 135,000 strikers will get as proof that the stoppage was worth the sacrifice.

Mr Sirs said last night: "I am tremendously proud of the qualities that have emerged among iron and steel workers. They have been tremendous in their attitudes. I have been very proud to lead them in this struggle, in which we have achieved tremendous progress.

"I would hope in the forthcoming battle over jobs we can produce the same degree of determination—not only that, I hope all the other unions can show the same determination and engage in the battle that is to come on jobs.

"We have become the most battle-hardened and experienced union in this country. We have been able to create an administration and procedures that are second to none. I do not think any other industry can have had to cover the same number of outlets that we have covered. While steel has been coming in to the country, a tremendous amount has been kept out."

Mr Sirs predicted that some small pockets of his members would not be prepared to accept the settlement. "Some people will be disgruntled. They have been on picket lines in foul weather looking for a victory of 20 per cent without strings, but they should not be disheartened."

He evaluated the full agreement at practically 18 per cent, when all its elements were taken into consideration. "Our people will never again be treated by any employer in the way we were being treated. While they may feel disgruntled now, when they get the benefits, they will feel the struggle was worthwhile."

Leading article, page 17

Mr Bani-Sadr's promise on American hostages regarded as a positive ste

President Carter postpones new sanctions against Iran

From David Cross
Washington, April 1

President Carter announced today that he has decided to defer the introduction of new sanctions against Iran in response to Iranian promises that the 50 American hostages would shortly be transferred to the custody of the Iranian Government.

In a well-received speech to a group of construction workers' leaders, Mr Carter described the undertaking given by President Bani-Sadr of Iran as a positive step. If the transfer took place the United States would postpone new sanctions but would continue existing ones, he added.

Mr Carter said that he wanted to "set the record straight" on Iranian claims that he had sent a message to the Iranians allegedly apologizing for past mistakes by Washington in its relationship with the deposed Shah and expressing sympathy for the militants holding the American hostages.

"No one in the Government of the United States has apologized to anyone in Iran and the reason is that we have nothing to apologize about" Mr Carter said. "Nor have we condoned or expressed understanding or approval of the seizure of the hostages, nor will we ever condone the seizing of our people in Iran," he added to loud and sustained applause from his audience.

The Administration had been "restrained and patient in its response to the crisis with Iran", Mr Carter said. The United States placed a high value on human life and personal freedom. It was not a sign of weakness when a powerful nation like the United States exercised patience in an effort to preserve human lives, he added. He promised that he and his Administration would continue to work incessantly for the earliest possible release of the hostages.

Mr Carter's decision followed a 5 am meeting with his foreign policy and national security advisers today. Two hours later he met reporters in the Oval Office of the White House to answer their questions.

The President conceded there was no guarantee that the hostages would be transferred from their incarceration in the American embassy to the custody of the Iranian Government. "The President of Iran has announced that it will be done", he said. "The best assumption now is that the hostages will indeed be transferred to the care and protection of the Government itself."

In response to questions, Mr Carter also made it clear that existing sanctions, like the freeze of Iranian assets, would continue until the hostages returned home safely. But he sidestepped other questions about whether the Administration would heed President Bani-Sadr's call to cease any "propaganda, agitation or other hostile actions" against Iran until the Iranian Parliament can rule on the fate of the hostages.

Mr Carter would say only that he "would like to see these positive developments continue and our foremost consideration and our constant effort will be devoted to the earliest possible release of the hostages and their return to this country and freedom".

The Administration's decision to postpone the introduction of new sanctions against Iran once again followed three days of confusing developments in Washington and Tehran. The muddle stemmed from contradictory statements by American and Iranian leaders fuelled by

Continued on page 8, col 4

President Bani-Sadr, right, with Ayatollah Khomeini's son at a Tehran rally.

Britain and EEC 'close the gap' in dispute over budget terms

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, April 1

Only about £240m is now separating Britain from its EEC partners in the dispute over Mrs Thatcher's demand for a drastic reduction in the British contribution to the community budget, Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the European Commission, declared here today.

"We are talking about the equivalent of two weeks' expenditure on the Common Agricultural Policy," Mr Jenkins told the political affairs committee of the European Parliament. A solution to the dispute "really should be within our political grasp, given goodwill and a readiness to come together in the interests of the community as a whole".

In a powerful plea to member states to prevent "an essentially serious debate" from degenerating into "careless and emotional recrimination", Mr Jenkins urged that the postponement of the EEC summit meeting should not be used "merely to reiterate national positions and to score minor debating points against each other".

Asked to comment on Mr Jenkins's assessment of the gap between Britain and its EEC partners on the budget issue, British officials here said that Britain was prepared to be a "modest net contributor" to the EEC budget of up to £200m.

Allowing for the fact that France would have to meet about 30 per cent of the cost of any reduction in the British contribution, British sources estimate that a net contribution of this size would leave Britain slightly better off than the French. That is regarded in London as reasonable given the relative wealth of the two countries.

As things stand, Britain's net contribution this year is forecast by the European Commission to be about £1,140m. This would appear to imply that a reduction of between £950m and £1,000m would be required to achieve the British objective.

That in turn, if Mr Jenkins is right, would suggest that other member states are willing to offer Britain a reduction of between £750m and £800m. Commission sources said that Mr Jenkins takes a more optimistic view of the generosity of Britain's EEC partners than most observers in Brussels. A reduction of £600m in Britain's budget contribution is generally considered to be the upper limit for most member states.

It was essential, Mr Jenkins said, that the next summit, which is now expected to take place on April 27-28 in Luxembourg, should not be side tracked into exclusive preoccupation with the budget dispute.

Judicial monitor on 'tapping' proposed

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Claiming that no more than 467 new warrants for telephone tapping were issued last year in Great Britain (Ulster figures were withheld) the Government insisted again yesterday that authorization remains with the Home Secretary and designated ministers.

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, pleading for public and Parliament "to repose their trust in ministers", rejected the idea of legislation to allow tapping warrants to become justifiable in the courts.

The only change he proposed was that a "continuous independent" check of the way the tapping procedures were being operated be monitored by a senior member of the judiciary.

The Labour Opposition greeted the Home Secretary's announcement—accompanied by a White Paper review of the practice—with some scepticism. Mr Whitelaw promised a full debate, to a challenge from Mr Wedgwood Benn.

Allegations in the *New Statesman* magazine in January that thousands of illegal tappings were being undertaken gave new urgency to the Home Office review. It had originated under the Labour Government after the Vice Chancellor (Sir Robert Megarry), noting the absence in a case of statutory backing for telephone interception, had stated that the situation "cries out for legislation".

Mr Whitelaw did not specifically deny the *New Statesman* claims, and it was noted that his statement, and White Paper covered only tapping by he police, customs officers, and the Security Service (MI5) dealing with internal security. It did not cover actions by the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6), for whom the Foreign Secretary is believed to issue warrants.

Nor, to the surprise of both Labour and Conservative backbenchers, did it cover "bugging" or "surveillance" by electronic or other methods.

Mr Whitelaw dealt only with interception of post office telephone and postal communications, and here he was categorical: "Interception takes place only on the personal warrant of the Secretary of State", he said.

As for alleged "unauthorized" interception, he pointed out under various Post Office Acts that that would be illegal. It was an "important safeguard" he claimed, that the only way they became legal was through his warrant.

Mr Whitelaw conceded that interceptions were an interference with individual freedom. However he hoped that his figures would provide "some reassurance" in the face of allegations that it was now being practised on a "vastly wider scale".

In view of the increase in crime and terrorism over the 22 years "I believe that the figures demonstrate that the use of interception continues to be tightly controlled".

However much care he had given to the suggestion of legislation, Mr Whitelaw had no problem rejecting it. By definition tapping had to be carried out in secret ;it "cannot therefore be subject to the normal processes of parliamentary control". His appeal for trust in Home Secretaries drew laughter from the Opposition backbenchers, but assent from his predecessor, Mr Merlyn Rees.

White Paper, page 4
Leading article, page 17

onal strike d off

our Staff
inal docks strike start this morning off last night after orkers' decision to ork became known. nsport and General Union, the dockers', , withdrew official e strike, but several areas, in- Clyde in Scotland, night were still go ahead with the

ion to strike was meeting yesterday of the union's docks nference. A motion national stoppage, by London dockers ed by Hull delegates, ed by 60 votes to one. erence was urged to 00 Liverpool dockers been on strike for weeks after 100 men nded without pay for load steel into a

on made the Liver- official last week ion to rescind offi- for a national included withdrawal for the Merseyside

s at yesterday's con- pparently took the heir dispute was un- the steel strike and the victimization of verpool men. Senior ials were anxious to all-out strike.

day: A meeting of dockers this morning the 13-day strike crippled the port of our Liverpool corres- writes). The shop ill confer and decide commendation before eeting.

BL's big unions pull back from stoppage

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

The two largest unions at British Leyland last night pulled back from calling a strike next week in protest at the company's decision to impose unilaterally its pay and conditions offer; but one gave a warning that it would take action if its members were disciplined for not accepting new working practices.

Leaders of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers voted unanimously to accept the 5 per cent to 10 per cent offer, which is linked to wide-ranging changes in working practices.

However, the Transport and General Worers' Union which has the largest membership among the company's 86,000 manual workers, said it would "take every available step to support our members' interests should disciplinary procedures be instituted".

BL told the unions 10 days ago that after five months of negotiations on the package, it was going to impose the deal. The company said workers returning from the Easter holiday next Tuesday would be deemed to have accepted the new flexible working arrangements.

After the company's decision, the BL Cars' joint negotiating committee, which comprises shop stewards from 11 unions, called on individual union executives to call official strikes from next Tuesday.

The TGWU did not go that far; but Mr Grenville Hawley, union nataional secretary responsible for the motor industry, said in a letter to Mr Ray Horrocks, managing director of BL Cars: "I must advise you that those (new working) conditions do not apply to members of this organization until agreement freely entered into is established and signed by the TGWU."

His letter says that the union does not accept that workers clocking in next Tuesday morning are "deemed" to have accepted the company's offer.

He hoped "that even at this 11th hour the proposals made by the trade unions as a basis for further negotiations, in an effort to avoid possible damaging conflict taking place, would have commended themselves to you".

The unions had asked for 10 per cent increase across the board with the productivity proposals being referred for plant by plant negotiations.

The new offer favours craftsmen, who are mainly members of the AUEW. Mr Terence Duffy, its president, said yesterday that it had been decided to accept the offer after consulting the union membership who had voted by a two-to-one ratio not to take strike action.

He said the working practices which were being proposed by the company were no different from those operating at other car factories. "After so many months of frustration the executive of my union decided it was time to grasp the nettle", he said.

Mr Duffy said he realized the union could be "taking a calculated risk" but he hoped the company would not set "insurmountable production targets".

The AUEW executive decision was to "instruct our members to work normally after Easter and operate the terms of the company's package".

The union has about 23,000 members at BL and Mr Duffy was satisfied they had all had the chance to state their views.

Unesco man disappears in East Berlin

From Ian Murray
Paris, April 1

A senior East German official at Unesco headquarters in Paris has disappeared while on a visit to East Berlin. His wife and daughter have gone into hiding in France.

The official is Herr Percy Stulz, head of the cultural heritage division of the organization. He left Paris on March 7 for a weekend visit to Berlin and was expected back at his desk the following Monday.

When he failed to appear inquiries were made to the East German authorities and an official at Unesco was told that Herr Stulz had suffered a heart attack in East Berlin and had been taken to hospital.

Shortly afterwards, however, his wife is said to have been visited in Paris by a senior diplomat at the East German Embassy who accused her of having helped somebody to escape from East Berlin to the West.

At about the same time a letter, apparently from Herr Stulz, reached an associate in Sweden. It claimed that he had been held in East Berlin after being forced to cross from the West on learning that his mother had been arrested. The letter claimed that he had also been forced to write to Unesco offering his resignation.

A colleague at Unesco claims that Herr Stulz was nervous on the evening of his departure.

Although there are no clues as to why he should be held in East Germany, the Soviet authorities were concerned at the turn of the year when a Russian section head working in Herr Stulz's department asked for political asylum in France days before he was due to return to the Soviet Union.

US prime rate moves to record 19¾%

United States interest rates moved to a fresh peak when the Chase Manhattan Bank raised its prime lending rate to 19¾ per cent. Money was pouring into dollars even before the announcement and the pressure on the Deutsche mark has been so great that the Bonn government is attempting to borrow German marks from the United States government. This is to help cover a balance of payments gap of more than DM24,000m ($12,000m) expected this year. Japan has spent up to $5,000m since Friday in support of the yen. Page 19

Post complaints 'fully justified'

A highly critical report issued by the Monopolies Commission states that complaints about worsening postal deliveries are fully justified. The commission, which was asked to report on letter posts in the London area after the chaos last summer, says the Post Office's omission to use effectively its manpower resources was the direct cause of the trouble Page 4

Children injected against meningitis

Injections of penicillin were given to 65 children in Sleaford, Lincolnshire, after an outbreak of meningitis killed a boy aged six and affected three others at the same school. Officials think the disease is unlikely to spread Page 2

'Torture' doubt in bomb trial

Edward Brophy was cleared of murdering 12 people by bombing a Belfast restaurant because a judge could not be sure that his alleged confessions had not been induced by torture. He received a five-year sentence for being a member of the Provisional IRA Page 2

Baby deaths rise near nuclear site

Deaths of babies below the age of one doubled within a 10-mile radius of the Three Mile Island nuclear power station in the six months after last year's accident there. Other babies born in the vicinity since have shown thyroid abnormalities Page 8

Debendox cleared: The Committee on the Safety of Medicines said there is no evidence of dangerous effects from Debendox, the ante-natal drug 2

bes sour marriage of promoted Soviet wife

ael Binyon
pril 1

had been happily r 16 years. He was a t driver and she was orter. The trouble n she won promotion head of the whole- distribution section. d a sudden avalanche had gifts and was un- and the pressure. It character, her health ually her marriage. had unable to bear s round of drinking , walked out and in ote to a Soviet news-

r promotion, he said, an bringing boxes of to their home. His d coming home late "I was invited her answer to his

Indeed she was. The managers of all the shops to which she distributed the produce did their best to ensure their establishments got the pick.

"Someone from a shop would come with the invoice and bring her salami, a joint of meat, a tin of stew. She used to accept whatever she was given. These she called presents, and I called them bribes", the husband said.

Her appetite grew. She made a distinction between "her" shops and "others". Whoever did not bring a gift went away without anything. The day was not long enough for her; she was busy looking after "her" shops until late at night piling up produce for them in her office. Sometimes she bought 70 kilograms of salami at once, and similar quantities of meat and tinned produce.

The presents she received included the traditional bottle of vodka. During business hours the head of the local trade union branch would sit demurely opposite her as though he hardly knew her. But when the client had gone they would open the gift, have a few swigs and sing and drink till late evening.

And so it went on.

She was up half the night drinking with people from her office. Her husband remonstrated, but realized she would never be punished by her drinking companions. At holidays a shop manager would graciously offer her his office car stuffed to the roof with parcels, boxes, tins and bottles including 30 to 40 bottles of spirits.

She told her husband: "Everyone round here respects me and that's why they bring me presents. If you don't like it, you can clear out." He did.

Sovietskaya Rossia sharply chided him for his weakness, his irresponsibility in abandoning his family at a time of trouble. But the paper admitted that the system of bribes was a difficult problem, which undermined the moral values and judgment of all involved. The paper then quoted, anonymously, some typical cases.

The deputy head of a school: "Of course if a teacher has been teaching for many years, there's nowhere left in her flat to put presents. At the start of the year—a vase, on teachers' day—another vase and then more on her birthday, women's day, speech day, the end of term.

"You know, among parents

Continued in page 8, col 6

HOME NEWS

Man cleared of bomb deaths because of doubts about 'torture'

Edward Brophy, aged 39, was cleared at Belfast Crown Court yesterday of murdering 12 people with a huge incendiary bomb because a judge could not be sure his alleged confessions had not been induced by torture. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for being a member of the Provisional IRA. He is to appeal.

Mr Brophy had been accused in the 45-day trial of the 'Mon Mon restaurant bombing in Belfast in February, 1978, when seven men and five women died.

The victims were at a dinner when the bomb went off. Nearly 300 others fled, many with their clothes on fire.

Mr Brophy, of Ardmonagh Gardens, Tullyallen Lodge, Belfast, was also acquitted of causing 11 other explosions at nine business premises between February, 1976, and his arrest in September, 1978.

Mr Justice Kelly ruled that confessions he was alleged to have made at the Royal Ulster Constabulary holding centre at Castlereagh, near Belfast, were not admissible as evidence.

He said he could not be sure they had not been induced "by torture and inhuman and degrading treatment". Mr Brophy had alleged that detectives illtreated him and invented the confessions.

The judge said Mr Brophy was a "weak man" and there was some lack of credibility in his allegations. But he had maintained a remarkable consistency, and medical evidence showed signs of ill-treatment, although many of his allegations were not borne out.

Boy shot dead: A boy aged 16 was shot dead by soldiers and two other teenagers were injured on Monday night when they crashed a car through an army check-point in west Belfast.

According to police, the youths were in a stolen Ford Escort.

Paul Moan, aged 16, of Andersonstown, was found in the car with a boy aged 15, who was later reported to be seriously ill with gunshot wounds. A third boy received lesser injuries.

Pregnancy drug safe, watchdog body says

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

Letters are being sent to 25,000 doctors today telling them that the Committee on the Safety of Medicines has found, for the third time, that there is no evidence to show that the drug Debendox, taken in pregnancy, causes congenital abnormalities.

They are being sent by Richardson-Merrell, the manufacturers of the drug, because of the virtual collapse in the sales of the drug after a court case in Orlando, Florida, which found that the drug had caused birth defects in a boy.

The committee was asked to review the safety of the drug in February by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of Health, because of public concern about it. It had been reviewed twice before, in 1978 and 1979, and both times found safe.

The committee completed its review on Thursday and said it saw no reason to revoke or suspend the licence of the product or to take any other action to restrict its availability.

Dr Harry Masheter, medical director of Richardson-Merrell, said yesterday that because of the publicity surrounding the case women all over the country were refusing prescriptions for the drug.

Yet 3,500,000 pregnant women in Britain had taken the drug for nausea during the past 20 years and long-term studies had shown that the level of abnormalities among their babies was the same as in the population as a whole, that is, 2 per cent, he said.

'Now we must fight for survival', Sir Charles Villiers emphasizes

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Customers of British Steel heaved a sigh of relief yesterday as news emerged of the steelworkers' decision to accept the 16 per cent pay rise recommendation.

Although generally industry has managed to survive the effects of the strike, there were growing fears last week that layoffs would have begun to increase considerably had the stoppage continued into the middle of this month.

Concern about the effects of the stoppage was voiced last night by Sir Charles Villiers, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, and the British Iron and Steel Consumers' Council, the industry's watchdog organization.

Sir Charles said: "At last we are back in business. But the business is at risk; we have to fight for survival. We need our customers more than they need us, that is one of the most important lessons of the strike."

The message was underlined by Mr John Safford, director of the BRISC, who said that it was important that BSC managed a smooth return to normal working and winning back its lost share of the market.

One of the first effects will be to free the large volumes of imported steel that have been stranded on quaysides up and down the country and subject to blacking by transport and railway unions. The total is estimated at well over 300,000 tonnes, equivalent to about a month's normal steel imports.

The release of that steel for industry will provide a relief to customers and stockholders whose stocks have been run down as the strike continued, and will tide industry over until BSC's production picks up.

BSC estimates that it has lost about 1 0per cent of its 54 per cent share of the United Kingdom steel market before the strike began, and by the end of this year, assuming no more disruption, it will be lucky to have hegained half of the share lost.

Over the next few weeks a further round of negotiations over the retrenchment programme will become the focus of union attention, since decisions have to be taken on the speed at which 30,000 more jobs are due to be axed.

In south Wales, where the phasing out of more than 11,000 jobs at the huge plants at Port Talbot and Llanwern will be a particularly difficult issue, the Government yesterday announced implementation of its plans to introduce measures to alleviate the impact of the steel closures.

A big factory-building programme is being launched to provide 5,000 new jobs.

Sir Keith steals Mr Silkin's gloom

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Sir Keith Joseph's gloomy message yesterday to the leaders of British industry as he opened the last day of the debate on the Budget was to fasten their safety belts, batten the hatches and prepare for a rough ride during the next year or two.

It must have been disconcerting for Mr John Silkin, Labour's industry spokesman, who was preparing to launch his attack, to listen to the Secretary of State for Industry uttering many of the grim forecasts that he might have preferred to reserve for his own speech.

As Sir Keith remarked, the novelty of the budget strategy was in its refusal to be over-optimistic, and certainly he seemed to be carrying out that policy to the letter.

The House of Commons, accustomed to the many false dawns of the Healey era, clearly shuddered under the cold douche of reality from the Secretary of State.

Sir Keith began with a warning that the return to monetary continence meant that a difficult year or two lay ahead. The squeeze on liquidity would be broadly comparable in severit to that of 1974 and 1975 and trading conditions in the short term were still worsening.

Foreign competition would continue to be strong and interest rates were unlikely to be substantially reduced for some time. Stocks would have to be run down and profit margins, already dangerously low in real terms, would be squeezed.

Many firms would [illegible] cash flow difficulti[illegible]

Manufacturing [illegible] would be worst a[illegible] Keith said, and [illegible] little, if any, fat [illegible] them from those [illegible] Against that unhap[illegible] there was little the [illegible] could do to help.

The only hope he [illegible] to the leaders of a[illegible] that this was the [illegible] ment to set itself so[illegible] stepping stones to[illegible] ment of inflation w[illegible] first priority. But [illegible] ment could not [illegible] economy; nor wo[illegible] rates come down un[illegible] taken to bring [illegible] supply under contr[illegible] some effect.

To a suggestion [illegible] Michael Foot, Labo[illegible] leader, that the b[illegible] Government could [illegible] be by going, Sir K[illegible] that that prospect [illegible] catastrophic if it [illegible] scucession of a Lab[illegible] ment.

Against that editi[illegible] Mr Silkin battled [illegible] discover even won[illegible] for the nation. [illegible] ment's industrial [illegible] based on the logic [illegible] he suggested.

Unions, in self-de[illegible] become like little [illegible] cause they were to[illegible] of the dangers of [illegible] the drawbridge [illegible] warning of the risk [illegible] fabric if present [illegible] continued.

The budget, Mr [illegible] was dangerously di[illegible] ters seemed to be [illegible] rudderless ship he[illegible] rocks while still de[illegible] the Jolly Roger.

Parliamentary re[illegible]

UDR boost for border

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

The Army is to spread the burden of its demanding commitment in Northern Ireland by building up the strength and effectiveness of the locally recruited Ulster Defence Regiment.

The aim is to release more regular troops for deployment within Nato, as well as to shift some of the manpower emphasis from Belfast and Londonderry to the sprawling and critically undermanned border areas.

The UDR, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary, has assumed direct military responsibility for the caged in central areas of Belfast, and is in "first line" support of the police in the southern half of co Londonderry. In both cases it is dealing directly with the police.

A further 350 UDR soldiers are to be made available by recruiting 175 full-timers and closing five of the 41 bases in an efficiency drive. The regiment has 4,900 part-timers and 2,329 permanent soldiers, most of them "loyalists". There will be no redundances or loss of rank among full-time soldiers because of the closures, and part-timers will be able to move to other companies.

The increasing dependence on the UDR is emphasized by the non-replacement of a three-company unit which left Belfast in February. That reduced the number of battalions in the city from three to two, leaving 1,000 regular soldiers, compared with about 1,400.

The military emphasis in Belfast remains paramount, but advances in technology have helped to reduce the number of soldiers needed in the streets. Some of the bombproof observation posts dotted around the city contain up-to-date surveillance equipment, which helps the Army to keep to the minimum the number of men in vulnerable positions.

That use of technology has been a key reason why more of the manpower emphasis can be placed on border areas. Sealing the border is all but impossible, but any increased activity improves the prospect of a red-handed arrest or an arms find.

All but a fraction of the explosives and weapons used in Northern Ireland are smuggled over the hundreds of border crossings in more than 300 miles of countryside. Previous attempts to seal off some of the crossings have failed, and there is little military support for a further attempt.

The number of helicopter flying hours allowed on the border has been increased and the Army has authority to cross for a limited distance into the republic's air space if it is in "hot pursuit".

The Army has 7,625 men in Ulster on two-year tours in six battalions and 4,731 *roulement* forces on tour for four months. That total of 12,356 compares with 12,980 a year ago.

Correction

In the penultimate paragraph of the Whitehall brief article yesterday the word "for" was inadvertently omitted from the following *sentence*: "*The safeguard is the* media members of the committee, who are very sharp and fight for the press".

BBC licence rise call

The BBC's general advisory council yesterday recommended that there should be an increase in the licence fee before the end of this year.

The council emphasized that the BBC was an efficient body.

Steel strike debts led to suicide

From Our Correspondent
Kettering

Miss Margaret Coleman, a British Steel Corporation telephonist, took her life because of debts caused by the national steel strike, an inquest at Kettering, Northamptonshire, was told yesterday. She was found drowned in the bath at her home in Corby on February 20 after taking an overdose of sleeping tablets.

Miss Coleman, aged 42, received only £10 in hardship money and food vouchers worth £2 during the strike. She owed more than £150.

Her half-sister, Mrs Mary Powell, from New Malden, Surrey, said that Miss Coleman's pride was affected when she had to queue for three hours to get money from her union. "She felt she was having to beg for it".

Mrs Powell said Miss Coleman's father had sent four payments of £20 to help her, but she added: "Margaret did not touch the money because of her pride. Her father is 76 years old and she did not want to get the family involved in the dispute."

Mr Thomas Barrowman, branch secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, agreed with the coroner that this union was "wealthy", but he said all its wealth was in property. "I was allocated only £800 to give out in hardship money to 8,000 strikers. My appeals for more fell on deaf ears. I can see similar deaths to this if the strike continues."

Miss Coleman was told by the Department of Health and Social Security that she did not qualify for supplementary benefit. After an appeal, she was informed that she was not entitled to benefit until March.

A finding of suicide was recorded by Mr Michael Collcutt, the coroner, who said: "Miss Coleman was a woman who did not want to get involved in the steel strike.

"There is only one conclusion, and that is that Miss Coleman took her own life because she could not meet her financial commitments due to the national steel strike."

Power union to keep open mind on nuclear choice

From Donald McIntyre
Labour Reporter
Llandudno

The union which represent technical, research, and engineering staff in power supply yesterday voted to keep its options open on the Government's controversial plans to build a pressurized water reactor (PWR) until exhaustive tests have shown whether it would be safe.

The Electrical Power Engineers' Association, which has launched a propaganda drive to counteract what it sees as the growing effectiveness of anti-nuclear campaigns, decisively supported ministerial proposals to expand the nuclear energy programme over the next 10 years.

It did so in a resolution accepting that "if successful, a PWR built to British nuclear safety standards would give the United Kingdom the advantage of a choice of nuclear station type for future development".

The resolution added, however, that "it would be wise for everyone to wait until the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate have issued their report on the safety case for a British PWR before firm positions are taken up for or against a PWR".

Senior officers of the influentially pronuclear union are concerned at the Government's decision to refer the plan to build two Advanced Gas Cooled Reactors (AGRs) which it strongly supports, to the Coneral Policy Review Staff (the "think tank") in case the Government decides to postpone the AGR programme on cost grounds.

Mr John Ashford, a senior executive member and a research ofifcer at the Berkeley Nuclear Laboratory, told the union's conference yesterday that he was concerned that government pressures might be brought to delay or cancel the commitment to instal the AGRs. That would "do great harm to the industry's credibility by being seen to respond overtly to political demands".

He added that the Government's decision in principle to instal a PWR, which would allow an objective assessment of its relative effectiveness, was a "sensible, yet cautious step".

Therapists to strike over longer hours proposal

By Our Health Services Correspondent

Radiographers, physiotherapists and speech therapists are to stage two one-day strikes this month and several one-week strikes after April 28 in protest over the recommendations of the Clegg comparability commission.

They are bitter about the recommendation that they should work longer hours or take a cut in pay. Radiographers work 35 hours a week, physiotherapists 36 hours and speech therapists 33 hours, but the commission recommended that they should all work 37½ hours.

The staff side of the Whitley Council, which deals with the pay of paramedical staff, decided to call off the strikes after negotiations with the management side reached deadlock on Monday.

The management side has said that no one will have to take a wage cut.

The paramedical staff have requested a meeting with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, but have not received a reply.

Holidays threatened: Holidaymakers flying from Heathrow airport this weekend could be delayed by a ban on overtime by 2,500 ramp workers and baggage loaders in support of their pay claim.

The men, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said yesterday that their action, which was due to start at midnight, would cause delays.

Shop stewards representing 370 baggage loaders at terminals 1 and 2 claimed that the men were working a total of 780 hours overtime a week to maintained services because of suspensions after arrests for alleged theft from luggage.

British Airways was said to have offered 17 per cent, which the men were willing to accept if some of the 29 conditions attached to the package were dropped.

British Airways said: "We have not beenadvised officially o fthe men's decision, so we are not able to comment".

Animal protection 'will hamper surve[illegible]

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

The Protection of Animals (Scientific Purposes) Bill, introduced by Mr Peter Fry, Conservative MP for Wellingborough, is due to begin its committee stage at the Commons today, but has little chance of reaching the statute book.

Last night five of its main critics on the standing committee, Sir Nigel Fisher (Kingston upon Thames, Surbiton C), Mr John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam, C), Mr Tam Dalyell (West Lothian, Lab), Mr Edward Garrett (Wallsend, Lab) and Mr Ray Mawby (Totnes, C) called a press conference at the Commons to explain their amendments.

They said the Bill would unnecessarily interfere with, and place bureaucratic restrictions on, many painless experiments, such as field surveys on wildlife and on farm animals.

Clause 2, they said, allowed animals to be used for the advancement of biological science only when "it is calculated to lead to the saving or prolonging of life".

They commented: "By its nature and definition, fundamental or basic research cannot be calculated to lead to anything other than an addition to the fund of knowledge of biological processes.

"These extensions of knowledge may or may not lead to mediral advances being made. There are numerous instances in which they have done, but they could never [illegible] to do so.

"A good examp[illegible] the pioneer work [illegible] Henry Dale on [illegible] mission and the [illegible] histamine release, [illegible] major advances [illegible] ment of allergic di[illegible]

Another clause [illegible] hibit the testing o[illegible] unless it was inte[illegible] saving or prolongi[illegible] alleviating sufferi[illegible] none of these is th[illegible] agrochemicals an[illegible] stopped", the MP [illegible]

"These restric[illegible] impede invention [illegible] weaken the chemi[illegible] cultural industries [illegible] quent adverse effe[illegible] ment, employmen[illegible] and exports.

"Imports from c[illegible] less restrictive c[illegible] development wo[illegible] and the British ba[illegible] ments would suffe[illegible] pesticides in T[illegible] countries would s[illegible] larly because a s[illegible] new compounds [illegible] deal with the pro[illegible] resistance."

Research would [illegible] abroad—"forced [illegible] United Kingdom, [illegible] already enjoy a l[illegible] of protection, [illegible] where there is litt[illegible] protection".

The MPs also [illegible] the Bill would prol[illegible] ing of new housek[illegible] and such substan[illegible] additives, needed [illegible] paration of conve[illegible]

Children given penicillin after meningitis kills a boy and affects three others

From Frances Gibb
Sleaford, Lincolnshire

Injections of penicillin have been given to 65 school children at the primary school in Sleaford, Lincolnshire, where an outbreak of meningitis has killed a boy aged six and put three other children in hospital.

Many of the children, aged six and seven, were in bed when they were given the injections on Monday night, after meningococcal meningitis had been contracted by four boys at the same school within a week.

Philip Smith, the boy who died, had joined Sleaford County Infants' School only at the beginning of last week. By Friday he became ill, and he died shortly after being admitted to hospital.

Three more children then developed symptoms of meningitis, an inflammation of the membranes of the brain or spinal cord. The children are at St George's Hospital, Lincoln, where yesterday their condition was said to be "fairly comfortable".

Dr Alfred Lobban, the Bedfordshire district community physician, said that because the incubation period for the disease was about three days, it was unlikely that Philip Smith had contracted it at his school in north Bedfordshire.

He was at that school until March 20 and joined the Sleaford school on March 24, becoming ill five days later. "It is unlikely he had the infection before he left Bedfordshire."

Dr Kenneth Jones, district community physician for Lincoln, who organized the injections, said the decision was taken because of the rapidity with which the disease had struck.

Normaly in isolated cases antibiotics would be given to immediate family contacts, he said. "Because three children went down in quick succession and another has died, we thought we might be dealing with a more virulent organism than usual. We were not sure, but we did not want to take any chances."

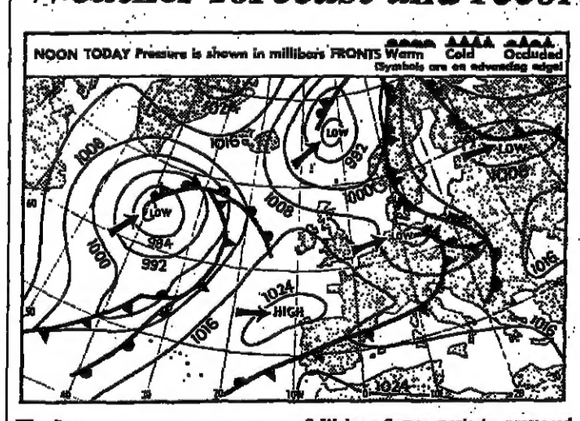
Dr Jones said it was unlikely the disease would spread further.

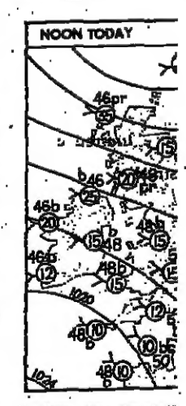
Police interview Captain Phillips

Captain Mark Phillips was interviewed yesterday by the police in connection with an allegation that he kicked a horse during a cross-country event.

The police investigation arose from a complaint by Mrs Jean Pyke, aged 58, of Havant Road, Hayling Island, Hampshire, who suggested action should be taken under the Protection of Animals Act, 1911.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; th—thunderstorm; p—periodical rain with sno[illegible]

Today

Sun rises: 6.34 am — Sun sets: 7.36 pm
Moon sets: 7.40 am — Moon rises: 9.32 pm

Last Quarter: April 8.

Lighting up: 8.6 pm to 6.1 am.
High water: London Bridge, 3.51 am, 7.0m; 4.8 pm, 7.1m. Avonmouth, 9.21 am, 12.9m; 9.37 pm, 13.0m. Dover, 12.57 am, 6.4m; 1.8 pm, 6.3m. Hull, 8.16 am, 7.1m; 8.20 pm, 7.2m. Liverpool, 1.7 am, 9.0m; 1.17 pm, 9.0m.
1ft = 0.3048m. 1m = 3.2808ft.

A ridge of high pressure will build over W areas.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, Central S, Central N, N England, Midlands: Cloudy in places, sunny intervals developing, isolated showers; wind W or NW, moderate; max temp 12°C (54°F).

East Anglia, E England: Scattered showers at first, sunny intervals; wind NW, fresh; max temp 11°C (52°F).

Channel Islands, SW Scotland, S Wales: Sunny periods, scattered showers near NW facing coasts at first; wind W or NW, moderate; max temp 11° or 12°C (52° to 54°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Sunny periods, scattered showers; wind W or NW, moderate or fresh; max temp 10°C (50°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow: Sunny periods, mostly dry; wind NW to W, light, increasing to fresh; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Moray First, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals and showers, heavy in places, wintry over higher ground; wind W, veering NW, strong to gale; max temp 6° to 8°C (43° to 46°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mostly dry with some sunshine, but NW will be more cloudy on Friday with some rain; warmer.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW, strong, decreasing to moderate; sea very rough, becoming slight.

English Channel (E[illegible] fresh, decreasing [illegible] moderate, becoming [illegible]

St George's Chann[illegible] Wind NW; moderate, [illegible] creasing to light and [illegible] sea slight, becoming [illegible]

Yesterday

London: Temp: m[illegible] pm, 14°C (57°F); [illegible] 7 am, 10°C (50°F). [illegible] pm, 94 per cent. [illegible] 7 pm, 10.53in. Sun, [illegible] 1.8hr. Bar, mean sea [illegible] 1,001.3 millibars, ris[illegible] 1,000 millibars = 29.[illegible]

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	23	73	Cardiff	r	8	46	Jersey	c	12	54	Naples	f	15	59
Algiers	s	27	81	Cologne	c	13	55	L Palmas	s	22	72	Nice	s	17	63
Amsterdm	c	11	52	Copenhgn	s	7	45	Lisbon	s	21	70	Oslo	f	7	45
Athens	s	18	64	Dublin	c	8	46	Locarno	s	16	61	Paris	c	14	57
Barcelona	f	17	63	Edinburgh	f	10	50	London	f	14	57	Reykjavik	c	3	37
Beirut	s	29	84	Florence	c	12	53	Luxembrg	r	11	52	Rome	c	16	61
Belfast	c	9	48	Funchal	s	17	63	Madrid	s	23	73	Ronaldswy	c	8	46
Berlin	s	14	57	Geneva	c	16	61	Majorca	s	21	70	Stockholm	c	2	36
Biarritz	c	18	64	Gibraltar	s	25	77	Malaga	s	29	84	Tel Aviv	s	32	90
Birmnghm	c	10	50	Guernsey	d	10	50	Malta	s	18	64	Venice	s	15	59
Bristol	c	10	50	Helsinki	r	2	36	Manchestr	c	9	48	Vienna	r	9	48
Brussels	r	12	54	Innsbruck	r	10	50	Moscow	sn	1	34	Warsaw	s	11	52
Budapest	c	15	59	Istanbul	c	10	50	Munich	r	11	52	Zurich	c	12	54

Overseas selling pric[illegible] Australia $1.50; Aus[illegible] Bahrain BD 0.600; Belg[illegible] Canaries Pes 80; Cyp[illegible] Denmark Dkr 4.75; [illegible] France Frs 4; Germa[illegible] Greece Dr 40; Holland [illegible] Rlas 110; Iraq 5 [illegible] Republic 20p; Italy L [illegible] 0.375; Kuwait KD [illegible] 4.00; Luxembourg [illegible] 33; Malta 20c; Mo[illegible] Norway Kr 5.00; Om[illegible] Pakistan Rps 9.00; Po[illegible] Qatar QR 6.00; Saudi A[illegible] Singapore $3.5; Spain [illegible] Skr 5.00; Switzerland [illegible] 1.60; Tunisia Din [illegible] Canada $1.50; UAE D[illegible] slavia Din 30.

Published daily except Sundays [illegible] her 25 and 26, Good Friday and [illegible] Newspapers Limited, London W[illegible] rice 55520; yearly by Air Fre[illegible] Postage paid at New York, N[illegible] Third Bridge Inc, 201 Eas[illegible] NY 10017. Telephone NY 212-[illegible] All Subscription rates [illegible]

Mr Callaghan fuels left's suspicions on conference

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Labour's leaders were suspected last night of being involved in a scheme to overturn a decision by the party's executive to hold a special conference next month to organize opposition to the Government's policies.

The left's suspicions were fed when Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, called a meeting in his Commons office yesterday morning with party officers. The outcome is that NEC members have been summoned to an unscheduled meeting next Wednesday to discuss the special party conference.

When that became known last night the official view from Mr Callaghan's office was that the leader believed that such a special conference should not be rushed and that its timing should be discussed.

But some left-wing NEC members believe that the real intention is to get the special conference decision reversed by the national executive, because the leadership does not want party policy decisions taken so early.

Those suspicions were fuelled again later when it became known that Mr Clive Jenkins announced yesterday that his nion, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs had asked that withdrawal from the EEC and import controls should appear on the agenda.

The original proposal for a special conference came from Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

But it is believed that since then other union leaders have been expressing their horror to Mr Callaghan at the prospect of a special conference which could be controlled by the left

Party's protest at Welsh raids

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, has been asked to ensure that the police return documents taken from Plaid Cymru members during investigation of arson at holiday homes.

In a letter the chairman of the party's Merthyr Tydfil branch, Mr Bleddyn Hancock, said police raided the homes of at least four prospective parliamentary candidates and his branch secretary.

Go-ahead for speed record

The Lake District special planning board agreed at a meeting in Kendal yesterday to allow the world water speed record attempt to go ahead on Coniston, provided Mr Tony Fahey, of Manchester, gets the other permissions he needs under the new Coniston by-laws from the Royal Yachting Association and the Union Internationale Motonautique.

Priority for planning civil defence local level urged

Evans
Affairs Correspondent

ity emergency planning s, whose job is to prepare efence plans, are making minute attempt to per- the Government to revise icy.

believe is review of efence will perpetuate the of planning from the m, instead of stimulating at local level, where lives be saved.

A. B. Stinchcombe, presi- f the County Emergency g Officers' Society, told imes: "One sometimes the opinion that the ment's home defence is to protect Government the people".

officers say that the ment has been unwilling fer with representatives l authorities to prepare stic national policy that down targets to be d. The Government has ns of knowing what is ing locally and provides ate support for district ties, which would have ont-line job of saving

r district and county ties have no proper war arters, from which to e the protection of the population. There is n that money is being irst on the provision of onal shelters for the ment.

gh not all have been provided, it is from those bases that civil defence planners envisage the strands of government being picked up after a nuclear attack, which would kill largely unprotected civilians. But government would be impossible, according to the society, unless there were proper communications down to community level.

In a surge of public interest throughout the country, the officers are receiving unprecedented numbers of inquiries from people anxious to know more about how to protect themselves.

Mr Stinchcombe said that most officers were attending up to three meetings a week in their areas at the invitation of local people to talk about policy

The officers are worried about what the Government's review will contain, and say that local authorities, which have the most important role in the survival and recovery of people, are being left out of the decision-taking process.

They have urged the Home Office to retain the specific grant for home defence, at present three quarters of approved expenditure, and increase it. They would welcome additional resources needed to organize and train volunteers from the community but would not wish to see a 1960s style civil defence corps revived.

To avoid waste, local authorities should keep voluntary bodies under their control.

EEC dairy farmers protest over milk cuts

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

More than 100 French and Belgian farmers contravened British law yesterday in an effort to persuade the Government to end its curbs of milk imports. They said they were not stopped as they came through the customs hall at Southampton with more than 1,000 pints of long-life milk.

British regulations stipulate that such imports must be accompanied by a certificate showing that the milk is free of cattle disease.

The farmers brought their milk to London behind a banner which read "Let Britain enjoy a Normandy pinta". British law which requires imported milk to be repacked in Britain before it is sold prevents it from being sold economically.

British grocers and continental farmers regard the rules as a shield to protect the doorstep delivery system, which has almost disappeared in most other countries. The farmers delivered a letter to 10 Downing Street yesterday. It stated: "How can your government persist by such devious means in flouting the Treaty of Rome, which stipulates free circulation for products subject to the common agricultural policy?"

M Michel Cottebrune, secretary-general of the French federation of farmers' unions, led a team of three farmers who spent half an hour exchanging accusations with Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

He reminded them that "the French Government, totally illegally, against a decision of the European Court of Justice and against the Treaty of Rome, refuses to allow the free export of British lamb to France".

"We gladly accept English lamb", M Cottebrune told reporters later. "We do not accept New Zealand lamb."

Two farmers were arrested as the increasingly restive group was pushed to the back of the pavement.

A French farmer and a policeman having a tussle over a model cow in Whitehall yesterday.

Airlines accused of huge waste of fuel

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Two airlines operating wide-bodied airliners from Gatwick on transatlantic services were wasting "a massive quantity" of fuel, a conference in London was told yesterday.

Mr P. J. Relf, joint chief accountant of Tradewinds Airways, told the conference, on airlines' fuel economy, that one of the lines transferred all its passengers to a rival without difficulty after a fault at Gatwick.

Both operated daily services, and if both could carry each other's payload, a huge quantity of fuel was being wasted.

"The headlong pursuits of traffic at all costs, the frantic grabbing at markets which can not sustain another carrier, merely brings forward the day when nobody operates — anywhere."

Mr Relf said there should be some seasonal discretion in the granting of licences, even an insistence by the licensing bodies that services must be restricted to three times weekly instead of daily at known slack periods.

Licences should be granted to new airlines only when it was obvious that the service would generate extra traffic.

Two years ago the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) granted licences to three new British cargo airlines. Fierce objections were made on the grounds that the traffic could not support more carriers. The consequence was that the capacity doubled

"Since then a once prosperous and efficient segment of the British industry has slumped to the level where everyone is watching the others to see whose fingers will let go first.

"When the CAA granted those new licences they were issued with the expressed intent of shaking up the market, thus allowing the most efficient operator to emerge from the mess and become the dominant United Kingdom carrier.

"The result of this reckless behaviour, so accurately forecast by us at the time, is the precise opposite".

'More baby battering' if urban aid abolished

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Baby battering may increase in deprived inner-city areas if the urban aid programme is abolished, Mr Brian Roycroft, director of social services for Newcastle upon Tyne yesterday.

Many exciting and innovative projects, particularly for children under five, would never have started without urban aid, he said.

In his own city, which had received about £2.3m from the programme, an experimental nursery for deprived young mothers had been established with £100,000 of urban aid money.

"It has meant fewer children coming into care because of the support we have given to the mothers, and it has been an important preventive measure in non-accidental injury", Mr Roycroft said.

"We have a high proportion of children in care in Newcastle, but a very low incidence of baby battering.

Mr Roycroft was commenting on proposals in a consultative paper from the Department of the Environment on the future of the traditional urban programme. As was disclosed in *The Times* last month, the main proposals are that the programme should be abolished or devoted entirely to voluntary organizations.

The paper says the programme has never had a clear definition of deprivation, which has meant great flexibility in the type of scheme and area which could be supported. But the lack of clear definition complicates the selection process, which "in a period of severe public expenditure constraint, must call into question the justification for a continued central government initiative of this nature".

Central government pays three quarters of the cost of urban programme projects; local authorities pay the rest.

The urban programme began in 1968 in response to growing concern about deprivation in inner city areas and its impact on race relations. It has always been a small programme, costing £27m in 1979-80, spread between more than 100 local authorities.

Criticism of US death parachute

An American-made parachute used by a girl aged 17 who died in an accident on a Somerset beach was dangerous. It absorbed tahree times its normal weight in water and sand, causing it to crash, it was stated at an inquest at Taunton yesterday.

Mr Michael Rose, the West Somerset coroner, strongly criticized the makers, the North American Dynamics Company, who did not attend the inquest.

HRe said: "I am deeply concerned about a company which sells products like this without guarantees or warranty and then washes its hands off the matter".

verdict of misadventure was returned on Sally Clark, of Lawn Road, Fishponds, Bristol, who died at Bream on December 23

Editor calls for D-notices review

By Peter Hennessy

The *New Statesman* will publish tomorrow details of a correspondence between its editor, Mr Bruce Page, and Rear-Admiral William Ash, Secretary of the Defence, Press and Broadcasting Committee, about the continuing legitimacy of two D-notices urging newspapers and broadcasting organizations to refrain from publishing details about British intelligence services and government ciphers and communications.

Admiral Ash refuses to be drawn into argument with Mr Page, telling him in a letter dated March 19, that: "Your representation of the D-Notice system is so wide of the mark that I do not think that anything would be gained by joining issue on it."

In February the *New Statesman* published articles by Mr Duncan Campbell on telephone tapping, the buildings and functions of MI5 and MI6. On February 11, newspapers and broadcasting organizations were reminded in a memorandum sent by Admiral Ash of the continuing validity of D-notices No 10 and No 11 on British intelligence and ciphers and communications respectively.

Mr Page replied to Admiral Ash's memorandum in a letter dated March 14. He argued that a voluntary system of self-censorship might be justified in wartime. But, he continued: "It must be stressed that during the 1970s the intelligence services in many western societies have, by their actions and attitudes, lost the confidence of large sections of the public. . . . Today there can be little justification for the tone of your letter—which effectively suggests that editors should feel themselves under an injunction to refrain from entering into any debate about the nature and usefulness of expensive intelligence operations. . . . During the 1980s —in our argument at least—there are political and civil liberties which are directly threatened by many activities of the intelligence and security agencies . . . and by those departments engaged in communications interception".

Mr Page criticized Admiral Ash for marking his February 11 memorandum "private and confidential". He reminded him that "many serious media organizations now give the system little or no credence".

Mr Page upbraided the members of the Defence, Press and Broadcasting Committee for failing to review the 12 D-notices since they were promulgated in their present form on August 16, 1971. Finally, he told Admiral Ash that the *New Statesman* intended to publish their correspondence.

In his reply Admiral Ash reminded Mr Page that his February 11 memorandum was marked "private and confidential" and that the Periodical Publishers Association, of which the *New Statesman* is a member, is represented on the D-notice committee. Admiral Ash was unwilling last night to comment on Mr Page's decision to publish

ast Water defenders ll try mass shout

Chartres
nents of the schemes re being debated to the abstraction of from Wast Water or ale Water, in the Lake , are to stage a "mass at Easter on the shore ormer, and a seven-mile walk round the latter.

"mass shout" on Sunday is designed to dvantage of the echo produced by the steep on the south-east side Water.

Kathie Naylor, a farmer's om Wastdale Head, who the local opposition to posals by British Nuclear extract an extra seven gallons of water a day Windscale reprocessing yesterday tested the of her own voice from Corner", a point near rth-western tip of the

said: "We shall try 'Save Wast Water' at s of our voices and see cho supports our cause. f us may pose questions rowd which we hope will They will be the sort of questions that call for the answer, 'No'. We will then try the effect of that".

Mr Bruce Parker, huntsman to the Eskdale Hunt, has promised to attend to create suitable horn-sound effects in an area which is closely linked with John Peel.

The Ennerdale Defence Group is staging its protest walk on Easter Monday. Ennerdale is preferred by the North West Water Authority and Cumbria County Council as a source of extra water for Windscale and for the whole of the West Cumbrian industrial belt.

The lake is the only large stretch of water in the Lake District without public motor road access, but it has a foot and bridle path round it.

The merits of the two water schemes and those of a third which would not interfere with either lake but would be substantially more expensive are still being argued by counsel at the public inquiry in Whitehaven, now in its tenth week.

The inquiry, which will adjourn tomorrow for the Easter recess, may continue until June.

ks on a more mercial s for BBC

neth Gosling

are in progress between BC and Home Office with a view to enabling poration's charter to be d when it comes up for l next year to allow the operate on a more com- basis.

does not mean that there intention to allow advert- n either television or n spite of fears expressed MP last weekend. Mr Sheerman, Labour mem- or Huddesfield East, his constituency that talks had been taking about advertising as a t of the BBC's financial s.

corporation is anxious to he forefront of the video , particularly in the fast- g videodisc field. Its division, BBC Enter- became a limited comp- st year.

understood that the BBC talking with its unions view to obtaining clear- o move into that market. Sheerman fears that the s prepared to sell out to rcial interests, when the ould be to increase the fee or find an alter- source of finance.

corporation wants to get cence fee established on term basis and to find ways for the public to

'Rock' collector may get his 447 tapes back

Mr Terence Piggott-Sims, aged 36, a rock music enthusiast, whose tapes were said to have been seized by "bootleg" investigators, may get his collection back.

Although Mr Justice Whitford's ruling in the High Court yesterday was in favour of most of the big recording companies and several performers who sued Mr Piggott-Sims to obtain 447 tapes, the judge refused to make an order that they should be delivered up.

The tapes will be kept by solicitors while both sides decide whether to appeal. If there is no appeal they are to be returned without being erased to Mr Piggott-Sims, of Coopers Piece, Hempstead, Holt, Norfolk.

Mr Mark Platts-Mills, counsel for 48 plaintiffs, said: "These tapes may be of great value to the plaintiffs in their pursuit of other bootleggers.

The judge made an order prohibiting Mr Piggott-Sims from making any recordings except for his own private and domestic use. He also ordered an inquiry on damages.

The judge said that Mr Piggott-Sims started to tape live broadcasts for his own collection and made private exchanges of tapes. "There is no evidence that he had been selling tapes made from recordings

usicians' Union threatens ban BBC engagements

Arts Reporter

ess agreement is reached on the future of the five orchestras threatened by my cuts, the Musicians' will instruct its 41,000 ers not to accept engage- with the BBC after May

nouncing that in London day, Mr John Morton, al secretary of the union, he was sure the union have the support of the industry in its action.

otiations on the issue are uing and Mr Morton said oped there would be a e. "We are saying to the that musicians are an ensable part of their tion and they have to them fairly. If we cannot em to see it our way, we ning to have trouble with "

organization funded by e-payers to the extent of n in the next year should le to do something other play records.

disclosed that a call had been received from the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra the previous day about a transmission due to have been made for the BBC. "They said they had decided not to do it because they were concerned about what was happening. That is the sort of sentiment to be heard all over the world."

Referring to a remark attributed to Mr Aubrey Singer, managing director of BBC Radio, that the BBC's light music orchestras had been playing old music in old ways, Mr Ian Wallace, president of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, said that the BBC tended to cater for the same areas of music as the catalogues, pop and classical and nothing in between.

"A creeping paralysis has been going on for many years, the result of inexorably economizing on the music library.

It was announced that the five orchestras had collected 130,000 signatures calling for their preservation.

HOME NEWS

Complaints of worsening London postal service justified, Monopolies Commission claims

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Complaints about worsening postal deliveries are fully justified, according to a highly critical report issued by the Monopolies Commission yesterday.

The commission was called on to report on letter posts in the London area after parts of the service came near to collapse last summer. A separate examination of the Post Office's monopoly of the letter post is being conducted by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry.

The Monopolies Commission report, which was not expected to be made public until after Easter, comes at the start of a union ballot of postal workers on staffing changes which the Post Office says it needs to improve services.

The commission blames the Post Office's "omission to make effective use of its manpower resources" for the deterioration in quality of service as well as a failure to "provide adequate and suitable capital resources through an earlier and more effective programme of mechanization".

While recommending that the monopoly should not be abolished, the commission advocates three minor modifications. Private express delivery services operating delivery on the same day by motor cycle should be encouraged.

The monopoly should be modified to establish the legality of such services to carry letters and packets as well as parcels.

A second modification should be made to allow the private operators to carry bulk bags of letters out of London and post them elsewhere. That could help to overcome bottlenecks.

The final suggestion on monopoly modifications is that document exchanges used mainly by professional people should be allowed to extend to the transfer of documents between different places in the United Kingdom.

There are two such private exchanges in London that provide an interchange service but no collection, delivery or conveyance. Firms collect their letters from a lockable box and deliver outward letters into the boxes of other subscribers.

On the general question of accountability and control, the commission believes that the present arrangements are inadequate. It considers that government control by means of financial targets alone could positively discourage efficiency because it could be used to justify tariff increases that might subsequently create a surplus.

It considers that there is a need for additional performance targets, particularly for productivity. Real progress will be made only if "satisfactory additional procedures to monitor progress can be introduced".

Reviewing the recommendations by previous scrutinizing organizations, the commission found that very little change had resulted.

"It would be disappointing" if the same fate met its own recommendations. Ways must be found of making the management of the Post Office more accountable if that is to be avoided.

The commission found that after a steady national decline in quality of service since 1978 it had deteriorated sharply last year.

In 1978, 90.5 per cent of first-class letters were delivered the day after postmarking. A year later the figure had declined to 82.5 per cent, and 3.5 per cent of first-class letters were not delivered until three or more days after postmarking.

Difficulties were even worse in London, which is the biggest of the Post Office's 10 regional administration areas. Figures show that first-class outward mail from inner London not delivered by the second day reached 8.1 per cent last June. The record for first-class inward mail deliveries was rather worse.

The commission was critical of the high margin of error in the Post Office's statistics. The first of 45 specific recommendations it makes for improvement is that the corporation should reexamine its sampling system and publish monthly figures of the quality of service provided by each district.

It has "no hesitation" in accepting that complaints about the deterioration of the London letter service last year are "fully justified". It also had no doubts that the deterioration "has significantly impaired the efficiency of the business community in inner London", or that the service in the WC and W postal districts has been particularly poor.

Much of the blame is placed on Post Office management, which is described as "in danger of losing its will to take management decisions".

Signs that that point has already struck home are apparent in Post Office instructions to local managers last month, telling them to go ahead and recruit casual staff needed to fill holiday vacancies, despite a union rejection of the proposal.

Employment of seasonal staff in London in the summer staff holiday season, when there is also an increase in incoming foreign mail, especially postcards, is considered essential to efficient and economic operation by the Post Office.

The commission considered that the use of more casuals would "make a major contribution to preventing a repetition of the deterioration in quality of service which occurred last summer".

Commenting on the proposals, Sir William Barlow, the Post Office chairman, said yesterday that he hoped the report "will not be used as yet another stick for beating the Post Office management.

"Men carrying heavy responsibility in a complex and difficult situation have become somewhat weary of the succession of reports and criticism either by government bodies or by pressure groups who do not have to live and work with the difficulties.

"The way forward is by winning the full cooperation of the workforce, and there has been some real progress

Leading article, page 17

Montgomery papers sold by rag and bone man

When William Robinson, a rag and bone man, found a sack containing documents and a belt at the rear of a former Army officer's house he took them to a friend, who gave him two bottles of cider, a packet of tobacco and £5, for them, it was stated at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

The sack, however, contained copies of drafts that had been drawn up by Field Marshal Lord Montgomery of Alamein in in Nuremberg at the end of the last war. When the friend sold them to a colleague he got £3,093 for them, it was added.

The friend made an even bigger profit when he sold the drafts and the German officer's belt at a Sotheby's auction for £5,000.

Mr Robinson, aged 54, of Haggerton Street, Hackney, London, admitted stealing the drafts and the belt from the back of the house of Mr Geoffrey John Keating.

Det Sergeant Michael Pendered said the drafts involved seating arrangements at Nuremberg and the method of the German surrender.

It was stated that it was after the publicity of that sale that Mr Keating, who had served under Lord Montgomery and had been keeping the articles in the sack for protection while he cleared out his house, traced Mr Robinson through Sotheby's.

Mr Anthony Chandler the magistrate, told Mr Robinson: "I accept you had no idea of their true value" and fined him £7, the amount he had got in the first place.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Mr Keith McCarter at High Wycombe with the plaster original of his sculpture, to be cast in bronze for a building in the City of London.

Toxic waste dump prompts inquiry ca

By John Young
Planning Reporter

Basildon District Council, Essex, is to seek a public inquiry into national policies for the disposal of toxic waste. It is also asking the Commons Select Committee on the Environment to investigate the matter.

The council's action has been prompted by its continuing concern over the dumping of poisonous materials on a site at Pitsea. The site, said to be the largest of its kind in Britain, attracted national attention in March, 1975, when a lorry driver died after inhaling lethal fumes.

After some argument, Essex County Council has decided to renew the disposal licence, which took effect yesterday. The owners of the site, Land Reclamation, a subsidiary of Redland Purle, had originally applied to be allowed to dump 48,000 tons of solid waste a year and 40 million gallons of liquid.

When the county insisted on a maximum of 37,000 tons of solid and 37 million gallons of liquid, the company lodged an appeal, but subsequently withdrew it.

The county cour made clear that tolerate the indef Pitsea as a "nati It is prepared company to bring from London an east for the next f is insisting that t from other parts should cease as sible.

But the county new treatment pla district council Applications for plants were dea sidered by Basild committee this m company has sub both applications planation, much of the committee hoped that, by it would provoke is seeking.

Despite assuran county that im treatment plants used as a pretext the permitted waste, Basildon uneasy.

"The very fact pany applied in suggests that all one of them said

Doubt on atom fuel tr

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A request to discuss the long-term implications of the transport of nuclear fuel through London has been made to the Central Electricity Generating Board by the general purposes council of the London Boroughs Association.

It was made after a meeting of local authorities last week expressed unease about the information given so far by the board about the safety of waste nuclear fuel being sent by rail.

A letter from Mr Peter Bowness, chairman of tion, questions the the safeguards spilling of radioa raises doubts abo ditions, when more carried after an the nuclear power and asks if it is the material throu all.

There is partic among the local about the mechan emergency servic notified of a lea Rail and the gene

Home Office says intercepts are vital in fight against crime, terrorism and espionage

Telephone tapping has trebled in the past 20 years

By Stewart Tendler

More than 500 warrants for intercepting mail and telephone calls by the police, the security services and Customs and Excise were authorized in mainland Britain last year, according to a White Paper issued yesterday by the Home Office.

The paper is the first report on government-authorized telephone tapping and mail interception since the Birkett report in 1957.

The White Paper reports that the police believe telephone tapping to be "an indispensable tool in the investigation and prevention of serious crime". Through intercepts the police can deploy themselves to the best advantage to collect evidence and their effectiveness in London would be diminished by the absence of the facility.

In the past four years millions of pounds of goods have been recovered through the use of taps and they have played a big part in operations such as the investigation after the great train robbery.

Telephone tapping is reported to have been an essential part of the Customs and Excise battle against narcotic drug smuggling. In 1978 intercepts were responsible for helping to recover 62 per cent of the heroin seized and 56 per cent of the cocaine.

The successful use of warrants by the security service, White Paper, which says they MI5, is not evaluated by the are issued as part of the fight against terrorism, subversion and espionage. The warrants are frequently used for "the prevention of acts that threaten the security of the state".

The White Paper agrees with the decision of the Birkett report that numbers of intercepts should not be published for security reasons; but the Government has made an exception because of "the fear that technological changes have made it easier to intercept telephones and that interception is now practised on a much greater scale than at the time of the Birkett report".

The White Paper confirms to some extent the fears the Government was attempting to allay. Interceptions have risen markedly since 1957, reaching a peak in the middle 1970s, when the Provisional IRA bombing attacks in Britain were at their heaviest.

The figures show that the emphasis has switched from mail interceptions to telephone tapping. The number of warrants for mail intercepts has been dropping; the number for telephone tapping warrants has trebled in a straight comparison of figures for 1958 and 1979.

The total number of intercepts is about 500 a year. That is more than double the figure when the Birkett report was published, but is far lower than many of the estimates made by various sources in recent years. The White Paper does not include Northern Ireland.

Nor does it take into account the use of Post Office machines normally used for checking the volume of calls, which are also used to give the police and intelligence services details of numbers called from a particular telephone. That procedure does not require a warrant.

The White Paper does not dwell either on the use of surveillance devices, or "bugs", which are known to be used by both the police and the security services.

Looking at the guidelines for the use of warrants, the White Paper says they must be authorized by either the Home Secretary or the Secretary of State for Scotland. Another Secretary of State can deputize for them if they are ill or absent.

The police must assure the minister that the offence is serious, that normal methods of investigation have failed and that an interception is likely to lead to a conviction.

The White Paper notes that a serious crime is "an offence for which a man with no previous record could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to three years' imprisonment, or an offence of lesser gravity in which either a large number of people is involved or there is good reason to apprehend the use of violence".

Customs officers operated under the same requirements, but in the case of the security service there must be a subversive, terrorist or espionage activity likely to injure the national interest.

The White Paper reports that as a result of stringent criteria applied, few applications need to be rejected. They are normally made in writing.

Each warrant gives the name and address or telephone number of the person or organization concerned. On some occasions the target may have more than one address or telephone number and those are all set down on the one warrant.

If a different number or address starts to be used then a new authority must be given and in such cases the minister's permanent under-secretary of state has a delegated power to give authorization.

The first warrant in each case runs for no more than two months and any application for renewal must go to the minister. Police warrants can be renewed for a month at a time only, the Customs and Excise for two months and six months for the security service. Postal warrants for the Special Branch in London can also run for as long as six months.

The Interception of Communications in Great Britain (Stationery Office, £1).

Leading article, page 17

WARRA

	Telephones.	L
1958	129	
1959	159	
1960	185	
1961	183	
1962	242	
1963	270	
1964	253	
1965	299	
1966	318	
1967	307	
1968	333	
1969	377	
1970	395	
1971	418	
1972	413	
1973	424	
1974	456	
1975	468	
1976	410	
1977	407	
1978	428	
1979	411	

SCOTLA

1967	3
1968	10
1969	8
1970	14
1971	10
1972	15
1973	20
1974	33
1975	41
1976	41
1977	52
1978	42
1979	56

Kidney unit schemes rejected despite aid

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

Health authorities were attacked yesterday for failing to provide treatment and dialysis centres for kidney patients despite generous offers of assistance from the British Kidney Patients' Association.

A children's kidney ward in Birmingham Children's Hospital had been closed for seven years despite offers from the association of £300,000 to reopen it. The balance could not be found, the association had been told.

The criticism came from Mrs Elizabeth Ward, president of the association, who announced in London the opening of what is claimed to be the first holiday dialysis unit for children in Europe.

The unit, which cost £48,000 and will be able to cope with eight patients a week, is in a holiday village in Bracklesham Bay, Sussex, run by Freshfields Holidays.

Families will be provided with a holiday chalet and their children will undergo dialysis in the Portakabin unit three times a week under the supervision of a qualified nurse.

Mrs Ward said she would like to see all area health authorities providing such units for holidays and in hospital grounds.

She sought expansion of provision for kidney patients but found administrators unhelpful. She had offered £300,000 over three years to the Birmingham Area Health Authority (Teaching) to pay half the cost of turning an empty ward in the city's children's hospital into a nephrology and urological unit, but the authority did not think it could afford the other half.

She had offered £300,000 to the Greater Glasgow Health Board to provide a dialysis centre at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Yorkhill, it had said it could not afford £142,000 a year to run it.

Tuition fees for EEC students cut

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Tuition fees for undergraduates from EEC countries studying in Britain will be reduced by 21 per cent from September and those for postgraduates will be cut by 11 per cent, it was announced yesterday.

Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in the Commons that all students from EEC countries on higher and further education courses in Britain would pay fees at the same level as home students from September.

The decision applies equally to those already on courses, whose fees were due to have gone up from £940 to £1,165 for an undergraduate and from £1,230 to £1,525 for a postgraduate; and to those embarking on courses for the first time, who would have had to pay the new full-cost fees, starting at £2,000 and rising to more than £5,000 a year.

All will pay the same rates as home students: £1,105 for a postgraduate and £740 for an undergraduate. The loss of revenue resulting from the Government's decision was expected to be about £2m in the first year, rising to £5m in 1983-84, Mr Carlisle said.

There are about 3,000 EEC students in Britain, one third of whom come from West Germany. About 4,000 British students are studying in EEC countries.

The United Kingdom Council for Overseas Student Affairs welcomed the Government's "long overdue" announcement. It said, however, that it highlighted the inequity of a policy that could charge an engineering student from Malawi four times more than an engineering student from Denmark.

Whitehall staff 'emerges secure' from cuts again

By Peter Hennessy

Civil Service headquarters staff in Whitehall departments had emerged secure from the present public expenditure cuts as they had under similar exercises mounted by Labour governments, Dr Bernard Donoughue, senior policy adviser to Sir Harold Wilson and Mr James Callaghan during their premierships, said last night.

Dr Donoughue, now development director of the Economist Intelligence Unit, said during a television interview on the BBC 1 programme, *Platform One*: "It seems absolutely human and understandable that if cuts are imposed, those who decide where the cuts should be implemented decide they should be on anybody else but us".

Central government bureaucracy therefore, "off-loaded" its cuts first on capital projects that affected the private sector, then on to local government and finally on to the periphery of government rather than Whitehall. The practice caused great damage to "our social infrastructure", Dr Donoughue said.

A future Labour government would need to find a way of dealing with senior civil servants who would not impose cuts on themselves. Perhaps the Cabinet should decide in detail where cuts were to be made and then call in outsiders to implement them rather than leaving it to civil servants.

Big changes were needed in the system of government. More outsiders should be imported into Whitehall, both special advisers to assist ministers and experienced people with industrial and trade union backgrounds who could compete for the highest posts in the permanent Civil Service.

Dead wood in Whitehall should be retired early and the most capable officials should be given departments in their early forties rather than having to wait until their fifties before being appointed permanent secretaries. The Civil Service should be smaller.

Secrecy was carried so far in Whitehall that the convenience of ministers and civil servants was protected and accountability reduced.

"It is probably part of the whole culture of our society that people in decision-making positions are protected from the consequences. Civil servants and ministers carry out policies that will increase unemployment, but there will be no unemployment for them", Dr Donoughue said.

Asked about Whitehall attempts to thwart manifesto commitments of newly elected governments, he replied that Whitehall tended "towards a permanent middle". But many people were paranoid on the subject.

"While a government is absolutely convinced that it knows what it wants and is united in the pursuit of what it wants, it will get what it wants. The moment a government has doubts or becomes divided, the Whitehall machine is very skilful at introducing its own compromise solution."

Buccaneer ban to continue

The flying ban on Buccaneer aircraft imposed by the RAF after the discovery of cracks in their wings will not be lifted until the second half of May at the earliest, defence sources disclosed yesterday.

Metal fatigue is thought to have caused the crash of a Buccaneer in February in which two men died. Tests on the aircraft are continuing.

Palestinian is deported

Mr Christopher Kelzany was deported and put on board a British Airways flight to Egypt yesterday. He had struggled for five years to remain in England, where he has lived since 1970.

Mr Kelzany, a Palestinian, aged 33, was told in 1975 that he would have to leave the country after he failed to notify the Department of the Environment and the Home Office about a change of job. He was arrested on Monday morning and yesterday was put on the flight to Egypt, a country he has never seen.

Miss Margaret Hicks, Mr Kelzany's friend, and a group from the Community Relations Office in Swindon, were at Heathrow airport, London, to protest at Mr Kelzany's deportation.

Miss Hicks said she and Mr Kelzany had arranged to be married next week at Swindon Register Office. She alleged that Mr Kelzany's deportation was hurried up to prevent him from marrying a British subject.

Mr Kelly was dropped and hit head, Pc says

From David Nicholson-Lord
Liverpool

A police officer said yesterday that James Kelly, the Liverpool man who died last year in police custody, was dropped and hit his head on the floor as he was taken out of a police van after being arrested.

In the first detailed police version of events at Huyton police station shortly before Mr Kelly died, Police Constable Paul Brophy, who was on radio duty at the station, said a message was received soon after midnight requesting a van for a "violent drunk".

When Mr Kelly was brought into the station he was a limp weight, the officer told the inquest on Mr Kelly. About two minutes later Mr Kelly turned "bluey-purple". His heart had stopped beating.

It was ruled yesterday that statements made by police officers as part of last year's two inquiries into allegations of police brutality in the Huyton division of Merseyside could not be produced as evidence at the inquest because they were privileged.

The ruling was made by Mr Ronald Lloyd, the coroner, after an application by Mr George Carman, QC, for the Police Federation and four individual officers. Mr Carman said the disclosure of confidential documents which were part of an unfinished inquiry would produce a "total breakdown" of police complaints procedures.

Mr Carman, who said he was prepared to seek an adjournment to defend the privilege in the High Court, submitted that every statement made by officers after June 22 last year, the day after Mr Kelly's death, when the first internal investigation by Merseyside police began, was privileged.

PC Brophy said that about five minutes after the request for a van he received another message asking that the back door of the station should be opened and a couple of strong men should be on hand to help to lift someone out of the van.

There was no noise from the van when it arrived. He opened the door and pulled Mr Kelly out by the shoulders, turning his body round so that somebody else could get hold of his feet.

The constable continued: "He was too heavy for me to hold and I was unable to support his full weight. As I held on to him he dropped to the floor". There was a bump as Mr Kelly's head hit the ground. "It was a fair bump", he said.

There were three officers around him at the time. Mr Kelly, he said, was a "limp weight", not fighting or struggling. He was picked up and carried into the charge office, where he was placed on his back on the floor in front of the counter.

PC Brophy said that as they carried Mr Kelly in he heard him make a gasping sound like a sharp intake of breath. As he lay on the floor in handcuffs he was "obviously in some physical distress", very pale, and having great difficulty in breathing.

His handcuffs were removed and PC Brophy, who said he was qualified in first aid, turned him half on his front and half on his side.

About two minutes after he was taken out of the van Mr Kelly turned a bluey-purple colour. The constable felt for heart beats, heard none and struck his chest in an attempt to start his heart.

Ambulance men arrived soon afterwards and attempted heart massage and resuscitation with an oxygen cylinder.

Asked by Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, for the Kelly family, whether he blamed himself for letting Mr Kelly slip, he replied: "I blame myself in that I tried to hold him but was unable to hold his weight." He agreed that from the moment he saw Mr Kelly he thought he was unconscious.

PC Brophy was told later by Mr Andrew Rankin, QC, for the Chief Constable of Merseyside, that dropping Mr Kelly had nothing to do with the cause of death. "You can be retrieved of that anxiety immediately", he said.

Earlier Mrs Pauline Gilbert, who has said she saw a police officer "kicking hell" out of Mr Kelly as he was being arrested, was cross-examined by Mr Rankin. She agreed that she was making a serious allegation which could put the officer's career in jeopardy and lead to a criminal charge.

Mr Rankin said: "You are telling this jury, are you, that you actually saw the physical contact between the end of the boot or shoe and Mr Kelly's body?"

Mrs Gilbert replied: "Yes".

She said she was appalled and disgusted by what she saw. From her view of events, Mr Kelly was wholly innocent of aggression

Lettings pl for student and immig

By Our Planning

New provisions i ing Bill to enable rities, new towns associations to mak lettings available workers and studen nounced yesterday Stanley, Minister and Construction.

The lettings will secure tenancies fact is explained to at the outset. The hopes the move will temporarily empty tion into use and as of labour.

Ulster war not in orde so man is f

A man held by since last Thursday rant issued by the Constabulary and c with possessing expl years ago was freed Court yesterday.

The court held th tion of Stephen Will was unlawful becau thern Ireland warr been properly end magistrate.

Mr Carlisle, aged tin Road, Ashford, granted a writ of ha securing his release jections by the RU Kent police.

After the ruling Laws, counsel for th that a properly enc rant was on its way

Mr Brian Somm Mr Carlisle, contend Carlisle had already for what amounted offence; last year quitted in Dublin of to cause an explosio in Dublin.

When he came after that acquittal rested by Special Br tives at Liverpool, b quent order for his was revoked by Secretary.

Chilly dipping as Brighton's nude bathing beach opens

Several bathers took the plunge to celebrate the opening of Brighton's nude bathing beach yesterday, despite chilly water and a biting wind.

Brighton is the first large resort to allow nude bathing near the town centre, on a 150-yard stretch of pebble beach, ringed by two sets of warning signs.

The first in the water was Mr Arthur Aibrow, a grandfather, aged 61, and a local plumbing instructor, who had never swum in the nude before. He said he could not tell the difference.

Mr Maurice Bell, landlord of the Bell public house at Bexhill, took the plunge three times. "It was about 43 degrees", he said, shivering.

The highlight of the afternoon was provided by three girls and four young men claiming to be from the Brighton and Hove Squatters' Union. A small crowd formed as they lined up with "BHSU—April Fool" painted in large black letters on their bottoms.

Councillor Mrs Eileen Jakes, a naturist who campaigned for the beach, said from the warmth of her fur coat: "I am not going in the water today for anybody." She celebrated later with champagne on the seafront.

Another councillor, Mr John Blackman, was there to protest. It had taken the place of a beach where young mothers brought their children after school, he said.

Mother of boys who died in fire bound over

Mrs Edith Hastie, aged 34, whose three sons died after their home was deliberately set on fire, consented to be bound over in the sum of £100 to keep the peace for a year by magistrates in Hull yesterday. She was accused of behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace.

The prosecution said Mrs Hastie, of Palm Court, Hull, was arrested during a neighbourhood dispute. There was a general mêlée in the street.

Her husband, Thomas, also aged 34, and two other men involved in the dispute were bound over three weeks ago.

The hunt for the person responsible for the deaths of Charles, aged 15, Paul, aged 12, and Peter, aged eight, continues.

New campaign is launched against car tax evaders

By Our Motoring Correspondent

The police, supported by the Department of Transport, are to launch a second campaign against car tax evaders after the success of a recent enforcement drive in Nottinghamshire. The new campaign will start soon in Warwickshire.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Minister of Transport, disclosed yesterday that during the fortnight of roadside checks in Nottinghamshire more than 700 vehicles were detected without valid tax discs.

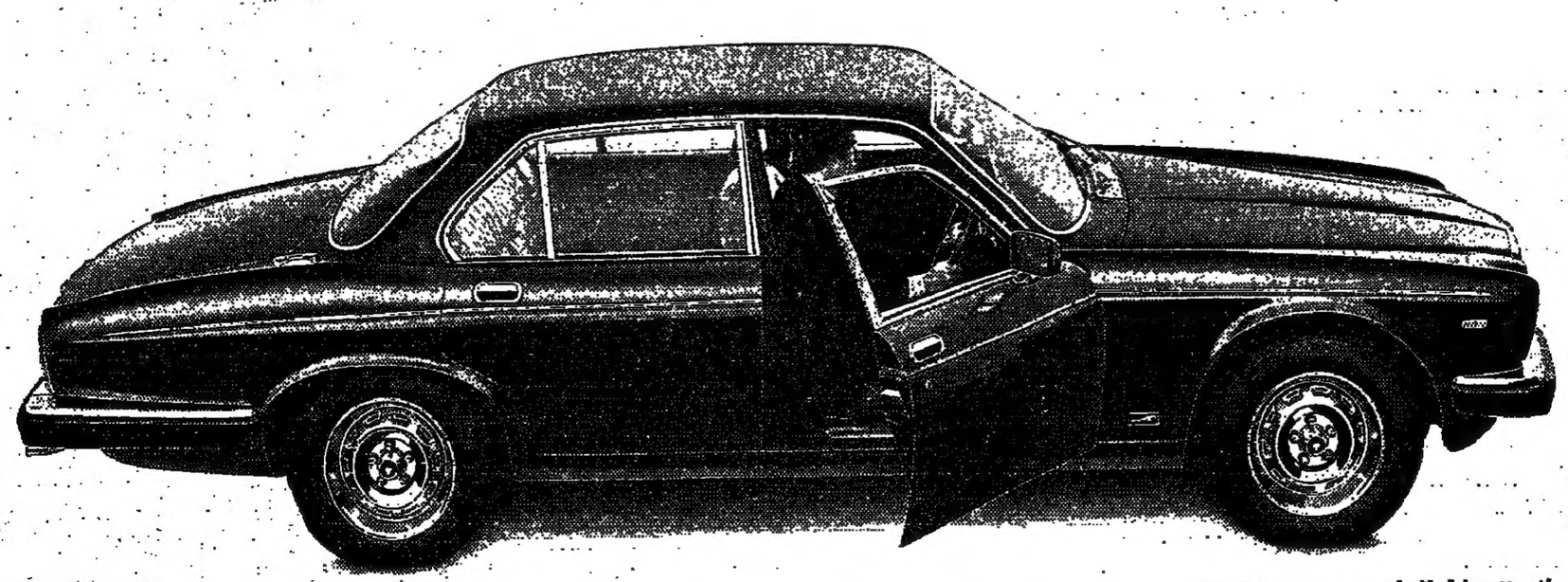
He said the campaign also had a considerable road safety benefit. About half those detected were likely to be charged with more than a thousand other offences, including using unroadworthy vehicles with bald tyres or defective brakes.

The number of vehicles relicensed in the Nottinghamshire area had gone up significantly after the publicity given to the campaign. There had been no complaints from the public, even though some motorists were stopped several times at roadside checks during the rush hour.

Mr Fowler said: "The success of the enforcement drive in Nottinghamshire makes it well worthwhile undertaking similar campaigns in other parts of the country. A number of other police forces are interested in cooperating with my department in this."

DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS

Find yourself a quiet place to make your next decision.



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The prodigious capability of the suspension geometry.

The stopping power of the ventilated disc brakes, which was unsurpassed in Motor magazine's recent review of competitive braking from speed abilities.

Yet it is because of all this attention to driving needs rather than despite it, that this Jaguar is, above all, engineered to be the world's quietest car.* So reflect on this:

It will never occur to the short-sighted that owning a Jaguar XJ12 could be a positive aid to business.

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*Motor Magazine Jan 26 1980.

JAGUAR XJ12

It's a good time to go for the best.

WEST EUROPE

French left fiddles as its election hopes go up in smoke

From Charles Hargroce
Paris, April 1

The French left is giving a splendid demonstration of fiddling while Rome burns, or rather while its chances in the presidential elections are going up in smoke.

After the interminable and sterile controversy as to whether M Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, returned from forced labour in Germany in 1943, as he himself maintains, or in 1944 as a voluntary worker, the press is now revelling in the equally stimulating debate as to whether he first went to Moscow in 1955 as a student of the international party school, which would explain his rapid promotion in the party hierarchy, or in 1959 to atend the twenty-first congress.

The Communist Party's central committee have condemned what it described as "an aggression on an exceptional scale led by the right and the Socialist Party".

The irony is that while the official Socialist Party leadership continues to back the notion of a union of the Left with the Communists, which the Communists and a substantial part of the Socialist Party reject. The controversy has been actively fuelled by two publications which stand very close to the Socialist Party.

The Paris daily *Le Matin* and the weekly news magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* have both accused M Marchais of lying. He has countered with the charge that the Socialist Party wants to "make permanent the division of the Left which it has provoked and prepare the conditions for a winning alliance in the future with the right".

M Charles Fiterman, the secretary of the Communist Party's central committee, told a press conference today that M Mitterrand used the most reactionary arguments to weaken the Communist Party. "By outdoing the right in anti-communism, and increasing the divisions of the left, François Mitterrand merely serves the interests of the Giscardian regime, its policy of austerity and of submission to Germany and of allegiance to the United States," he said.

It is difficult to assess the impact of the controversy on public opinion. An opinion poll published some time ago showed that a high percentage of people thought it damaged the Communist Party. The results of local by-elections in recent weeks show that the left as a whole has lost ground in the past 18 months.

But while the Communist rank and file is on the whole closing ranks around its assaulted leadership, Socialist voters tend to support candidates of the Government majority rather than back a Communist when he is the only standard bearer of the left.

But the Socialist Party seems incapable of profiting from the Communists' difficulties. It is deeply divided as to who shall be its candidate in the presidential elections next year, what kind of Socialism he should represent and what the party's attitude should be towards the Communists.

M Michel Rocard, the leader of the minority group in the party, and a challenger to M Mitterrand, received a powerful boost last weekend with the open support of M Pierre Mauroy, the Mayor of Lille and leader of one of the two most powerful Socialist branches in the country.

M Mitterrand so far has resisted pressure from the Young Turks of his entourage to declare his readiness to stand.

Experts in Stavanger examine the broken leg of the oil rig yesterday.

17 more oil rig disaster victims found

Oslo, April 1.—The bodies of 17 more victims of the disaster in which the offshore oil rig Alexander I. Kielland capsized have been found on the seabed, Stavanger police reported today.

The disaster last Thursday killed 123 of the 212 oilmen on the rig. Sixty-seven bodies have been recovered and divers are searching for 56 still missing in the Edda oilfield area.

Many of those missing after the world's worst offshore oil industry disaster may be trapped inside the 10,000-ton overturned rig. The divers have not yet entered the rig, which was a floating hotel for workers.

The oilrig capsized after one of its five steel legs was broken off during a storm. The broken leg was towed to Stavanger and thoroughly inspected by the four-member Norwegian commission of inquiry yesterday.

It was also checked by experts from Det Norske Veritas classification society for ships and oil rigs and from Phillips Petroleum Company, which had chartered and operated the Norwegian-owned French-built structure.

The commission, headed by a judge, Mr Thor Naesheim, also is working on the Alexander I. Kielland's sister rig, the Henrik Ibsen, which has just been completed, to study construction details. "We will not come up with any indications about the possible reason for the accident before all our work has been completed," Mr Naesheim told the Oslo newspaper *Verdens Gang* today.

The possibility of salvaging the rig and towing it away from the Edda field to Stavanger without damaging pipelines is also being analysed by Phillips and maritime experts.—AP.

France goes on with nuclear energy plan despite protests

From Ian Murray
Paris, April 1

Scarcely a day goes by without some form of protest in France against the nuclear energy programme. The Government, however, sustained by opinion polls that have always shown a good majority in favour of nuclear power, is determined to continue its ambitious programme to make France independent of imported energy supplies.

It is planned that by the year 2,000 up to 80 per cent of all electricity in France will be generated from nuclear power, with only about 10 per cent from oil.

But if that programme is to succeed, it means that power stations will have to be built in places like Plogoff on the remote Pointe du Raz in Brittany. To build the power stations, a site has to be found with a good granite base for foundations and plenty of water nearby for cooling the system.

Such places are rare. More than 50 per cent of the entire French coastline is now urbanized, and in Brittany the figure has reached 73 per cent. Plogoff is one of the very few places with enough rock, water and isolation to build a plant.

These are the very virtues, of course, which 2,359 inhabitants of Plogoff want to preserve, and which has caused them literally to man the barricades against even the planning inquiry investigating the proposition.

This stand by the small peasant population has, of course, attracted other protesters as well as the militant Breton nationalists, all of whom see Plogoff as a cause capable of winning much popular support.

Anti-nuclear and environment groups are pinning their hopes of Plogoff winning the day as a first step forwards France backing down on its nuclear programme.

For the people of Plogoff, however, it is the idea of building the huge power station on their beloved cliffs which seems to cause the deepest anger. Although unhappy about possible nuclear dangers, their real argument is against what they see as vandalism against one of the few unspoiled sections of the French coastline.

Some of the locals will even admit quietly and very secretively that they would welcome the scheme because it would bring money into the area. Although notices everywhere say "Plogoff is not for sale" a number of land deals have taken place recently with small farmers buying up property in the belief that they will make a good profit by selling to the electricity authority when planning permission is granted.

The protest movement also seems to have attracted a number of small businesses to the area. A couple of new bars have opened, which are doing brisk business in selling protest badges and drinks to the crowds of supporters.

Nevertheless is is incontestable that the people of Plogoff are united in opposing the plan. At night they turned out by the hundred in work parties to build barricades to try to keep the vans holding the inquiry documents out. By day they always managed to assemble a large crowd to watch the vans disappear.

Inevitably the demonstrations attracted troublemakers. In an area where unemployment is well above the national average, young people found something positive to do in hurling stones at policemen in pursuit of a cause of which their elders approved. The peaceful intentions of the Plogoff demonstrations often disappeared in a cloud of tear gas smoke fired to disperse a dangerous group of youths with slingshots.

This type of protest is becoming a French tradition. The watchmakers at the Lip factory of Besançon have resisted a liquidation order for over six years. The sheep farmers of the Larzac plain have stopped the French Army for a decade from extending its firing range there. Catholic traditionalists have held a church in the centre of Paris against the law for three years.

These cases have been at stalemate for some time now, with the state unwilling to give way for fear of setting a precedent and fearful of acting too harshly for fear of creating martyrs.

But none of these issues is as vital to the future of the French economy as is the nuclear programme. If Plogoff is rejected, somewhere else will have to be found and the inevitable objectors at a new site will have taken heart by Plogoff's success.

As the French planners see it there really is no sensible alternative to the nuclear programme. A young girl standing in the pouring rain one day at Plogoff wearing an anorak to which was stitched the badge "Solar, yes: nuclear, no" seemed to sum up the environmentalists' hopes for a sun-powered France.

Nuclear stations are like leper colonies. They are essential, but nobody wants them in their own backyard.

Terrorist groups share close links

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, April 1

The close ralationship between terrorist groups of different countries has been shown up by police interviewing the 23 people arrested since last Friday for questioning about a series of shootings and bomb attacks.

Among them are five Italians and a Spaniard. The rest, who are French, include people suspected of links with two terrorist groups which have operated in France over the past decade.

The round-up seems to have begun after the discovery of a grey Mercedes used in an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate M Robert Galley, the Minister for Cooperation, last month.

However, police have not been able to find the couple said to have run away from the Mercedes after the unsuccessful attack. The couple were named today as Jean-Marc Rouillan and Nathalie Menigon, members of the Direct Action Group, which claimed responsibility for the shooting.

The common bond of extreme left-wing views and a ruthlessly violent way of making them known brought French revolutionary members in contact with the Italian Red Brigades. Police believe that the Direct Action Group was formed to coordinate activities between them.

In the Paris flat, where police found members of the group had been meeting 1,350lb of explosive and large stock of weapons, including rifles, revolvers and grenades were discovered.

Italian arrests: Five alleged members of the Red Brigades terrorist group were arrested by Italian police in a dawn raid in Ancona today. One of those held was a Jordanian student. All had been charged with subversion and membership of an armed group, a police spokesman said.—Reuter.

Drive against moose hunters

Gaevle, Sweden, April 1.—Police believe they have broken up a gang of illegal moose hunters who shot the animals from their cars on a highway and butchered them in their bathtubs, a district prosecutor said today.

Three men have been arrested on suspicion of killing some 50 moose. If found guilty they face a maximum penalty of one year in prison and loss of their cars and rifles, he added.—Reuter.

OVERSEAS

Summit call in Lusaka for economic liberation

Lusaka, April 1.—A nine-nation southern African economic summit opened here today with a warning that the region's struggle to coordinate development and lesen its dependence on South Africa would be long and hard.

Sir Seretse Khama, the President of Botswana and chairman of the one-day conference, said in his opening speech that "the struggle for economic liberation will be as bitterly contested as has been the struggle for political liberation."

The meeting, hosted by President Kaunda of Zambia, brought together the leaders of the five "frontline" states that backed the guerrilla war for an independent Zimbabwe —Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Angola and Botswana—with Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister designate of Zimbabwe, and delegations from Lesotho, Malawi and Swaziland.

Sir Seretse made it clear that the group, while seeking to lessen its dependence on trade and transport links with South Africa, was not seeking outright confrontation.

"It is not our objective to plot against anybody or any country but, on the contrary, to lay the foundation for the development of a new economic order in southern Africa and forge a united community," he said.

The aim of the summit is to approve a declaration drawn up at a conference in Arusha, Tanzania, last July combining measures to coordinate development projects with steps to reduce economic ties with Pretoria.

President aunda hailed the "epoch-Kmaking victory of Zanu-PF7" in the Rhodesian election and said that Namibia (South-West Africa) "will be free and will in the not too distant future take her place in the summits for the economic reconstruction of our region."

Dr Kaunda described the summit as a "logical consequence" of events in Rhodesia and "part of the implementation of theOAU (Organization of African Unity) declaration calling for African unity."

He added: "We are happy that Zimbabwe has joined the ranks of nations whose major preoccupation is not merely the search for political freedom, but also consolidation of that freedom."—Reuter and AP.

Israel relents on El office in Tel Aviv

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, April 1

After months of stalemate the Israeli Government has given in to concerted European diplomatic pressure and granted the EEC permission to open its new office in Tel Aviv rather than Jerusalem, the official capital, whose exact status remains a sharply contested international issue.

The sudden switch in the Israeli position is regarded in Western diplomatic circles as a considerable climbdown and is has been accompanied by the minimum of publicity inside Israel. A senior Foreign Ministry official refused to comment on the reasons beyond stating: "They way is now open for the EEC to open its office and it will be opening in Tel Aviv".

Until the stipulation about Jerusalem was withdrawn the EEC flatly refused to go ahead with earlier plans to send representatives to Israel, although a senior official had already been appointed in Brussels to head the new mission. It was pointed out to the Israelis that, apart from Holland, all members of the EEC with diplomats in Israel have their national embassies in Tel Aviv.

As yet, no date has been set for the opening of the office. But I understand that one will be announced soon. At the same time the Israeli Government plans to initiate le the Knesset which the EEC representa Aviv to enjoy the diplomatic privileges

Since taking offi 1977, the right-win Government of Mr Begin has made a sp to persuade foreign journalists and i organizations to operations in Jerusa felt that this wou the city's position a try's undisputed ca

But to date the c not enjoyed a great cess, largely becaus Arab pressure again moves, particularly ments.

Although there a public explanation reasoning behind th cision, it is unders flect the Governme not to lose an im channel of influen Community at a ti EEC has recently in a number of Ar

On the economic Israelis are worri potential competi agricultural pro more southern Eu tries join the EE there are complaint cials that promised on the tariffs o Israeli citrus fruit materialized.

Europe to aid neighbou as well as Zimbabwe

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, April 1

M Claude Cheysson, the European Commissioner for aid and development, said on arrival here today that the European Community would provide development assistance not only for Zimbabwe, but also for projects that would serve neighbouring states.

It seems likely therefore that the possibility of Community assistance for the development of regional transport and communications systems will be raised when M Cheysson meets Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister-designate tomorrow.

Mr Mugabe returned to Salisbury from Lusaka this evening after attending the nine-nation summit conference which agreed to create a southern African transport and communications commission to coordinate the use of existing transport systems

The summit emp one of the first prio be the reopening links that connec locked states of Zambia, Botswana with Indian Ocean is one area where is likely to call for assistance.

At an airport ference after his Salisbury today, said the Comm already given 4.7r dollars (£3.3m) t babweans who had the war to Bo Zambia and had al Rhodesin dollars wards the repa refugees prior to t general election.

Lord Soames, th had lunch with today. M Cheysso visit Mozambique

Chad drifting into civil war as fighting enters 11th day

Ndjamena, April 1.—Chad seemed to be drifting into civil war today as fighting for the capital entered its eleventh day amid signs that attempts to negotiate a ceasefire had been abandoned.

Fierce clashes continued last night between the Armed Forces of the North (FAN), supporters of Mr Hissene Habre, the Defence Minister, and President Goukouni Ouddei's People's Armed Forces (FAP).

Sporadic fighting and bursts of machine gun fire could be heard in the north and northeast of the capital, the centre and in the customs area near the Chari river. But fighting appears to have died down a little.

All negotiations appeared blocked, with telephone contacts between the two leaders apparently broken off. A meeting yesterday to study another ceasefire failed to take place, without any reason being given.

Withdrawal of the Congolese peace keeping force continued. Two Congolese Antonov 24 aircraft and an Angolan Herculese C130 made four evacuation flights on Sunday and seven yesterday. The Antonovs were ferrying soldiers from here to Garoua, in northern Cameroon. The big Hercules take them from Garoua back to the Congo Republic.

The peace keeping force was installed under terms of the Lagos agreement on national reconciliation reached last year between Chad's 11 armed factions. The agreement called for the 50 Congolese soldiers to be joined by contingents from Guinea and Benin, but these reinforcements never arrived.

Three French army surgical teams were expected to start operating this afternoon on casualties evacuated from here by the International Red Cross across the Chari River to Kousseri, Cameroon. The surgeons are equipped with two mobile France-Press, AP.

operating rooms.—Agence

Forces advancing: Mr Habre's troops claimed today that they were advancing through Ndjamena pushing back froces commanded by President Oueddei, reports reaching Paris said.

Mr Habre's 3,000-man force, heavily armed with 120mm guns, rocket launchers and mortars, was reported to be gaining ground though its adversaries were slightly more numerous.

As fighting entered the eleventh day, there were indications that the French, Saudi, Sudanese and other diplomats had abandoned their effort to stop the fighting.—UPI.

Carnage sl delegates f the Red C

From Alan McGreg
Geneva, April 1

Delegates of the Committee of the Ndjamena report b by "indiscriminat during the fighting

Mr Frank Sch delegate-general fo today this applied to the large numb casualties, includi "We estimate a 1,500 wounded in said. "The Central very rapidly runn medical supplies."

A chartered aircr here tonight with medicines and dre too are a doctor, a ICRC delegates and trator.

According to there is no indicat the opposing force a ceasefire, though President Goukouni Mr Hissene Habre, Minister, "are ver to it in principle".

But they are c recognize the Cent as a neutral zo enabling Red Cross evacuate wounded Kousseri, on the Ca of the Chari River. pital set up there medical teams can 100 patients a day.

New Yorkers begin the long hi

From Michael Leapman
New York, April 1

Millions of cheerful commuters walked, cycled and hitch-hiked to work this morning as workers on New York's bus and underground rail system and the Long Island railway went on strike for the first time in 14 years.

The morning rush hour was less chaotic than expected but officials believe things will become worse as the strike continues.

Mr Edward Koch, the popular mayor, stood in the walkway of Brooklyn Bridge and told streams of pedestrians: "The unthinkable has happened, but life will go on". He praised their tenacity and they in turn urged him not to give in to the demand of the striking unions for large salary increases.

By a stroke of luck, the wild winds, rain and sleet of yesterday had given way this morning to crisp, sunny spring weather. The massed phalanxes of pedestrians were in a matching sunny mood as they struck up conversations with strangers, comparing boasts as to how far they had hiked.

The streets were alive with the thud of shoe leather.

It would have been something of an anti-climax if the last-ditch talks, which broke down two hours after the midnight deadline had succeeded in staving off strike action. The city has been preparing for it for weeks.

Complicated emergency traffic rules were prepared and took effect at dawn today. The main intention was to ban cars with fewer than two occupants from the central area of the city and from key roads leading to it.

This did not appear to be stringently enforced, though at the entrances to some bridges police were making lone motorists pick up pedestrians.

The traffic jams were not much worse than on a normal morning, possibly some had the day off for the start of the eJwish Passover holiday.

Large firms hired coaches to carry their employees, and booked others into hotels. All hotel rooms in New York are filled, hired cars have been hard to get and there has been a run on bicycles. Enterprising owners of mini-buses were cruising the avenues this morning offering rides to tired pedestrians ,at a price.

The unions, which represent 35,000 bus and underground workers, had been seeking an increase of 30 per cent spaced over two years. The best offer made by the state-run Metropolitan Transit Authority was an increase of 18 per cent over three years.

The strikers defied a court order made under a state law banning strikes by public employees. The state was taking additional legal action today to try to force a return to work but union leaders have said they will ignore court orders. Technically, each striker could lose two days' pay for every day he strikes, and the union can be fined.

Behind the dispute is New York's long-running financial crisis, which almost brought the city to bankruptcy five years ago. The following year the transit workers settled for no increase in salar years later for o cent.

They feel that borne the brunt o problems for too that inflation is e salaries, which ave (about £8,300) a y.

For their part, c officials are worrie effect of too gener ment on the wag other city workers tionally use the settlement as a yar

The city still r solvency on grant federal Governmen cials fear that C may balk at votin If they think wage are too extravaga why they wanted t the settlement wo ments making for cient use of labour the transport autho loss of $250m.

The difficulties pounded by the fa union leadership Mr John Lane, it and chief negotiator into office by majority and a would be ready t official action if th he was giving way

For overseas vis will be harder to ge at Kennedy Airpo coach service to the east side termina Street and 1st Ave ning as usual. If th booked an hotel roo not be able to find

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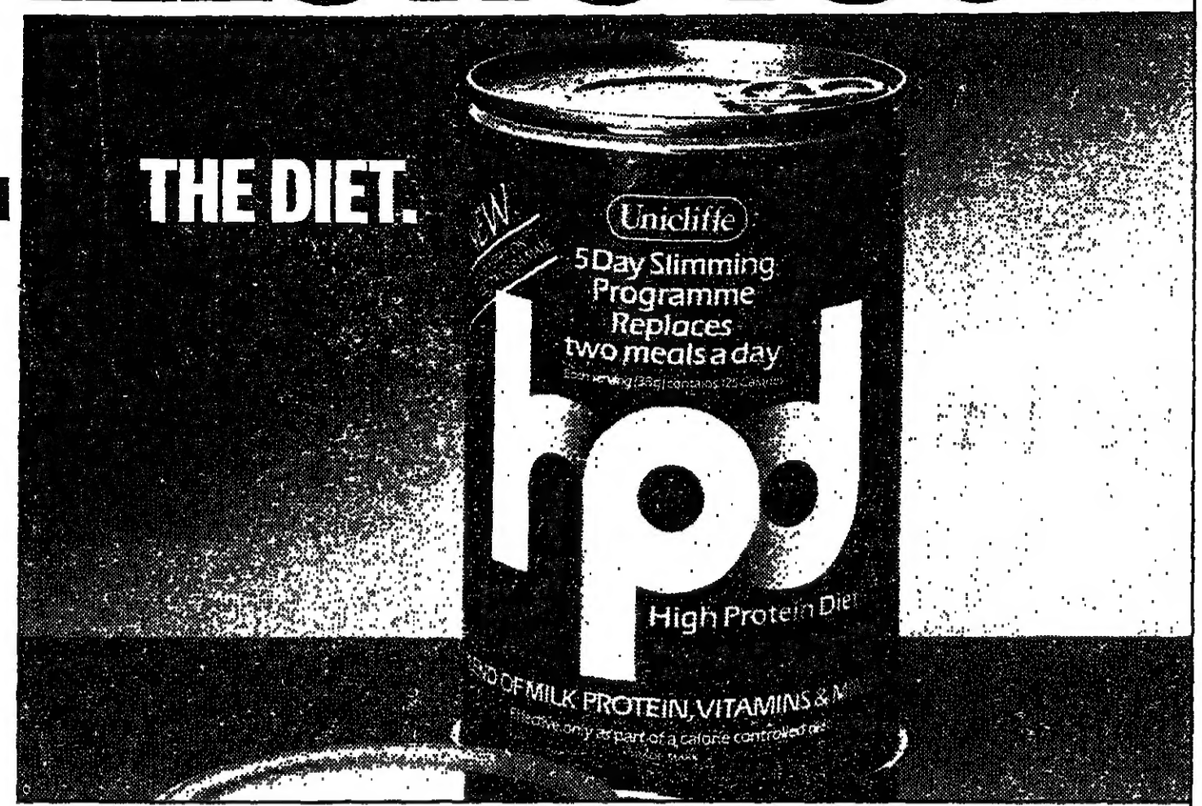

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OVERSEAS

Conditional hope about future of American hostages in Bani-Sadr speech to Iran crowds

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, April 1

President Bani-Sadr of Iran today raised hopes that the 49 American hostages might be transferred to Iranian Government control.

Addressing a festive rally marking the first anniversary of Iran's Islamic republic, Mr Bani-Sadr said the transfer would take place if the American Government publicly promised to keep silent on the issue for the time being.

But, as in the past, there still appeared to be some hurdles to be overcome on the path from the President's will to his ability to act. The most immediate was whether President Carter, in his reaction to Mr Bani-Sadr's message, had yet done enough to meet Iran's conditions.

Mr Bani-Sadr told the huge crowd that the country's ruling Revolutionary Council had agreed to take control of the hostages "if the United States Government makes a formal announcement that it will not, until the formation of (Iran's) parliament and its decision on the hostages, speak, instigate or make propaganda or claims on the issue".

There was also a special message today from the Ayatollah Khomeini who repeated his determination that the new Islamic parliament should decide the eventual fate of the hostages. The parliament is not expected to get down to serious business until June.

There was no official Iranian reaction after Mr Carter had given his reply, but independent observers who saw his comments said they did not seem to have explicitly fulfilled Mr Bani-Sadr's conditions.

Western diplomatic sources said one possibility was that Mr Carter might be waiting for voting to finish in the Wisconsin primary election before making a fuller answer meeting the requirements.

Even so, the crucial factor in Mr Bani-Sadr's plan remains the reaction of the militant students holding the hostages.

He met three of the students last night to discuss the Revolutionary Council decision, which was by no means unanimous. There is no indication so far of what, if anything, was agreed in the meeting.

The ayatollah's own message, read at today's rally by his son, did not inspire confidence that Mr Bani-Sadr had yet won his approval of the plan.

The two do not appear to have met since Saturday. Before the revolutionary council made its decision. Since then the ayatollah has been visited by Ayatollah Muhammad Behshti, a council member who leads strong opposition to compromise on the hostage issue, and Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the Foreign Minister, who supports the President's plan.

Although the ayatollah pointedly made no reference to the issue of transferring the hostages to Government control, he spoke today in some of his most scathing terms about President Carter and the United States.

The ayatollah said the Shah's flight from Panama to Egypt meant that "a solution has become more difficult".

If the students held their ground the ayatollah would have to publicly order them to hand over the hostages. Yet in the past he has consistently sided with them in all issues.

If the ayatollah does, however, except the transfer it has been suggested that in the initial stages it might be a "technical" affair which would leave the hostages and students inside the embassy but with the Government able to have full access to them.

Ayatollah Khomeini's message today was an angry reply to the message the Iranians say President Carter sent the ayatollah last week. Describing America as the "great Satan" he accused President Carter of "trying to cheat us with flattery".

"This new plot of Carter resembled the plot the Shah used at the end of his reign when he restorted to cheating and flattery", the Ayatollah said. He called on all Iranians to unite and "use all your might to dash the hopes of America, our main enemy".

In his speech, President Bani-Sadr spoke of the two messages he had received from President Carter. The second of these indicated that the Iranians had agreed to a March 31 deadline for transferring the hostages, provided the United States held back from imposing sanctions on Iran.

According to Mr Bani-Sadr, President Carter said the Iranian President had not kept his promises and gave a warning that because of a shift in American reaction "the transfer will become more difficult if delayed".

Mr Bani-Sadr said Mr Carter had told him: "We have shown our good will by agreeing to the United Nations Commission and refraining from any harsh statement concerning Iran and have tried to keep the position of Mr Bani-Sadr in consideration". It then said that America expected Iran to live up to its own responsibilities.

Wheelchair veterans: About 500,000 people, including veterans in wheelchairs and victims of the former Shah's Savak secret police massed today at the great Azadi (Liberty) Square in the west of the city to celebrate the Islamic republic's first anniversary.

President Bani-Sadr and Mr Ahmad Khomeini, son of the Ayatollah Khomeini, arrived by helicopter and were greeted by a huge ovation

The President had to be practically carried to the speakers' platform, losing his glasses in the process.

As the meeting closed, police cordons were knocked over and presidential guards had to use force to get Mr Bani-Sadr through the crowds to his helicopter. General Cadmehr, the armed forces chief of staff was lifted bodily into the air and carried to his car.

As Mr Bani-Sadr's helicopter lifted off the crowd shouted "long live Bani-Sadr".—Agence France-Presse.

Hat trick: Senator Edward Kennedy with a large Mexican hat which was given to him by some of his admirers in Milwaukee on the last day of his Wisconsin campaign.

Tehran Government persuaded to take over embassy captives

Continued from page 1

unhelpful "clarifications" by Administration officials here who were anxious to avoid any new deterioration in Adierican-Iranian relations.

It now appears that the Administration sent at least two messages via intermediaries to Iranian leaders last week. The messages warned the Iranians that they could expect new sanctions if the hostages continued to be held by the militants in the embassy.

At the same time, the Administration called on its West European allies and Japan to make the same point to the Iranians. The latter agreed to make representations to the Iranians explaining that Washington's patience was now at an end.

President Bani-Sadr and Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the Iranian Foreign Minister, apparently decided to use the messages as a way of convincing members of the Revolutionary Council that the time had come for the Government to take control of the hostages. But they chose either to fabricate new contents for the messages or to use the more conciliatory parts in them to persuade their colleagues on the council to approve the transfer.

Mr Carter, it was alleged by the Iranians, had both admitted past mistakes in America's relationship with the deposed Shah and expressed some sympathy for the militants holding the hostages.

The publication of such views posed a serious problem for Mr Carter in an election year. Several statements were issued from the White House which initially appeared to deny even the existence of the letters. But it later transpired that the denial covered only the general thrust of the messages and their authorship. The messages were signed by Administration officials not by President Carter, as the Iranians had maintained.

Waldheim comment: Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, said today that a handover of the American hostages in Tehran to the Revolutionary Council would pave the way for the resumption of the work of the United Nations commission of inquiry.

The five-man mission suspended its work last month when the youths holding the hostages would not allow them to be interviewed.

Woman is jailed over Hungary escape attempt

By Gabriel Ronay

A conspiracy of hearts hatched by two Hamburg women to reunite a young Pole with his fiancée in the West ended in a Hungarian court at the weekend.

Fräulein Maria L...rmann was sentenced by the Gyor county court to five months' imprisonment for attempting to smuggle the young Pole to the West with a false passport.

Fräulein Margarethe Grudzinsky, who was engaged to the Pole, was found guilty of the same charge. The court exercised leniency because of her poor health and fined her 60,000 forints (£1,500) and expelled her.

Both had been in detention since Christmas. The Pole was extradited to Poland, where he is to be tried.

Big rise baby de near nu power p

From Michael Lea
New York, April 1

Deaths of babie age of one doubl 10-mile radius of th Island nuclear pow the six months af dent there a yea figures were reve Gordon Macleod, Secretary of Heal sylvania when t occurred.

There were 31 deaths between Ap tember, 1979, co only 14 in the sar 1978. Other figures thyroid abnormalit born near the si accident to be one pared with a nati of one in 5,000.

Dr Macleod sa infant deaths wer sarily caused by ra from the plant accident. Officials maintained that th not sufficient to Dr Macleod said a reason could be logical stress which created in pregnan

He argued, how was important for the deaths to be Dr Macleod was g his state post last is now a professor versity of Pittsburg

The figures, r week, are sure to apprehensions of live near the plant to vent radioactive still trapped in it. of the power stat release it into the slowly over two mo protesters insist t way must be found

The residents are cannot believe offi tions that there is bearing in mind th information from company during t

One couple is a the owners and des plant for damages, their baby was still of the radioactiv during the acciden

Bribes for doctors and teacher

Continued from page 1

and children there's sometimes a competition to see who can give the most generous presents. And the teacher? Well, she gets used to it, even though there's a hint of bribery which is sometimes quite obvious."

The sick child's parent: "How can I not bring a box of chocolates to the doctor, or a nicely wrapped bottle of cognac? It's the done thing. Like saying thanks for your trouble. There are several ways of treating someone: with special attention or just normally. So what's wrong?"

The chief accountant: "You have to respect and please the auditor. For instance, I know that there were no financial irregularities, but still I am afraid. If he wants, he can always find something wrong. I don't know whether it's a present or a bribe—a bribe I suppose. If he's not given anything, the auditor can always hint at what he would like."

The farm manager: "I won't elaborate, I'll just give you the facts. We took a tractor engine to be repaired. When I sent a mechanic to collect it, he came back without it. When I asked him the problem he said: 'in return for the engine they want a sheep.' So we had to slaughter one and send him back with it. In the old days they would fix things for a bottle of cognac. Now they want a sheep. What it will be next I don't know."

The council chairman: "I don't like talking about such things, but if you don't mention my name I'll tell you frankly, because I've had enough. This person you have to take out to supper, that one for a day's hunting and the other one for a sauna. Naturally it all costs money and who is going to pay? We're not doing this for ourselves, but for our region."

The worst thing of all, the paper said, was that in the end it was the state that had to pay for all the bribes. Nobody paid from his own pocket. The money was always ... way or another, f... tory or office f... these to buy preser... to plain stealing.

Sovietskaya Ros... ted that in some ... had to be bribed ... jobs properly, such ... gatory five-rouble ... for those who clea... pared the baths a... rooms in health ... other cases people ... ancial inspectors ... bribed to avoid be ... scientious.

If no one off... would the country b... off, the paper as... doctors, teachers ar... distributors not do ... properly as laid d... law, instead of givi... attention to some w... ing others?

The law presc... punishment for any ... a bribe and, Soviet... concluded, the law ... enforced.

Bomb blasts end uneasy silence in San Salvador

San Salvador, April 1.—A spate of bombings in a residential area of San Salvador broke nearly 36 hours of tense quiet after the weekend violence in the city's main square in which 31 people were killed.

Authorities said eight bombs exploded in the suburb of Colonia Escalon. Most of the bombs seemed to have been aimed at businesses. Residents said they heard up to 16 explosions.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or of the extent of damage. Two armoured troop carriers were seen rumbling toward the area shortly after the bombings last night.

Left-wing and right-wing factions have launched a wave of terrorism against the ruling minitary-civilian junta, which is trying to introduce land reforms and nationalize banks while carcking down on leftists in the countryside.

Violence broke out on Sunday at the funeral of the assassinated Archbishop, the Most Rev Oscar Arnulfo Romero, when 31 people died and 148 were injured.—AP.

Death sentence for man who killed British pilots

Zajecar, Yugoslavia, April 1.—A 59-year-old Yugoslav was sentenced to death today for war crimes by a court here.

Vojislav Rajkovic, a construction worker, was found guilty of killing 49 unarmed people during the Second World War, including captured, Communist-led partisans, two unidentified British pilots, two Soviet soldiers and two Bulgarians. He admitted the killings but pleaded not guilty, saying he had carried out the orders of superior officers.

Hew as a member of the Royalist Chetniks who fought against Marshal Tito's partisans during the war.

Mr Rajkovic had served eight years in prison immediately after the war for fighting against the partisans, but his war crimes remained undetected until late last year.—Reuter.

Mao Tse-t remains go on view ag

Peking, April 1.— leum of Mao Tse-t opened today a closed for four n embalmed body la in a glass-covered

A report from Ho month suggested present regime plan down the mausoleum Mao Tse-tung's body surroundings bu officials have d suggestion.

Thousands of Chi few foreign tourist shortly before 9 a the mausoleum in T square in the centre —UPI.

Prince arri Vancouver

Vancouver, Apri Prince of Wales a last night for a thr to British Columbia.

His main engagem to chair a meeting r the International World Colleges, of president.—Reuter.

Body of millionaire's kidnapped son f in shallow grave in Tahiti hills

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, April 1

The body of M Olivier Breaud, 26-year-old son of the millionaire French Banker M Jean Breaud, and brother-in-low of the French pop singer Sacha Distel, was found by French criminal police investigators in Tahiti yesterday.

He had been kidnapped on March 26 in Papeete, where he ran several of his father's business interests. A ransom of 10m francs (about £1m) was demanded for his release.

M Jean Breaud had refused to get in touch with the kidnappers or discuss payment of the ransom until he was provided with proof that his son was still alive.

The body of the victim was discovered in hills a few miles from Papeete, where it had been hastily covered with a few shovelfuls of earth and branches. According to the police investigators, M Olivier Breaud had been hit on the head with an iron bar and a Polynesian club and died of his injuries on the day he was kidnapped.

Three suspects, Yves Le Goff, aged 36, his wife, Claude, aged 34, and an associate, Daniel Chelle, aged 40, were detained by the police yesterday.

The three had come from France to Tahiti in 1977 toi set up a textile factory to produce cotton products for tourists. They have been charged with murder.

Police say the victim was lured to an empty house in the suburbs of Papeete. Then he was said to have bee... a textile plant at F... town near Papeete. circumstances which yet been clarified, he by his kidnappers, tried unsuccessfully t... body, and finally to the hills to conceal

The kidnappers ... to have got in to... friend of M Jean ... telephone when his already dead to de... ment of the ransom. immediately cordone... whole island, subject and sea traffic to ... trols, and began a f... Reports that M B... been removed from in a yacht were d... spread to reassure nappers.

ERSEAS

dent Assad's Baath Party reforms may be too late

ctarian tension could lead to Syrian civil war

bert Fisk
s, April 1

ipean nations are look- concern at the internal n Syria, they can at lect that their own history caused many ctarian tensions which t afflict the regime of Assad.

is nothing new in the nd suspicion between awite minority and the *Sunni Muslims*: he French once did t to exploit the very l tribal divisions that ireatening the Govern- Damascus.

in the present regime hosen to explain why Alawites—including, the President—have influential positions ruling Syrian Baath Of the country's *on people, more than* it are Sunnis but less er cent are Alawites. of Shia Islam often by the Sunnis as a r religious dissidents. s not their schismatic Muhammad's cousin ld have been the *true successor* that ed the Alawites from community in Syria. rise from the poverty of northern Syria to the political leadership of the country that has angered the Sunnis, who once exercised social and economic *domination* over the rural population.

The Alawite Mountains to the east of Latakia have always been among the poorest and least developed areas of Syria, and the Alawites formed a largely agrarian society whose peasants took the most menial jobs when they emigrated to the cities.

During the French mandate (1920-1946), the Government in Paris *encouraged* the recruitment of Syria's Alawite, Druse and Kurdish minorities into the so-called *Troupes Speciales du Levant*, a force which both suppressed local rebellions and effectively enabled France to divide and rule its sphere of influence in the Middle East.

The Sunnis came to feel, therefore, that the Alawites had helped to suppress the rise of Arab nationalism, even though the Alawites would later be found among the most vociferous proponents of pan-Arabism. It was probably inevitable, too, that the Arab Socialist Baath Party, founded by a Christian and a Sunni Muslim, should have taken root so quickly among the Alawites.

Asked in a recent interview with *The Times* how the Alawites came to achieve such distinction in the Baath, Mr Ahmed Iskander, the Syrian Information Minister, said with considerable circumspection: "Perhaps it is because revolu*tions traditionally find their* base among the poor."

Most important of all for the Alawites, they had gained influ*ence through the Army.*

The old French special forces eventually became the national armies of Syria and Lebanon. In Syria, the Sunnis preferred commercial life to military service and so gave the Alawites a greater foothold in the Army.

Education spread only gradually to the northern part of Syria and Sunnis still constituted the most powerful group within the officer corps, but during the 1960s this changed dramatically.

By 1963 Alawites made up almost 40 per cent of the military officers in the Baath Party's regional commands. Though they were to remain a minority, they gradually acquired the positions of most influence.

President Assad's coup d'état in 1970 represented the effective supremacy of the minorities within the army.

The military and political power-brokerage in Syria tends, however, to over-simplify the sectarian tensions in the country. Many Sunnis, for example, do not dislike Alawites—but they do dislike the socialism of the Baath Party. *This distaste has then been* applied to the most influential members of the party who, of course, are generally Alawite.

Thus an upheaval in Syria in the coming months would not just constitute a straightforward attempt to overthrow President Assad: *it would also* open up the possibility of civil strife on a very large scale.

Mr Assad realizes this and *so he has gone a long way to* encourage relatively liberal reform within the party. That this has so far failed to achieve its purpose may be because the reform is too late rather than too little.

President Assad, however, is *a man of determination as well* as shrewdness, and should a catastrophe threaten his Government, few Syrians doubt that *he would struggle to maintain* his power, even if opponents—perhaps within the Army—took control of the capital.

rrillas
Afghan
ols,
says

el Binyon
pril 1

ast year anti-Govern- in Afghanistan have about 1,100 schools, arter of all those in , and have massacred teachers who ignored o keep away from Tass correspondent day from Jalalabad. the insurgents made articular target be- *were* counting on the ss and illiteracy of ion in opposing the volution. He said nd saboteurs" in- om Pakistan had set schools.

e outskirts of Jalala- ll smoking after a track when the Tass nt reached it. He bels had thrown all oks into a heap on et them alight and dynamite charges.

, he reported, leaf- attered on March 18 yone who attended he would be killed. 6 in Farah province school teacher was in his house, and l ruthlessness" the ut off the heads of

ng after all the been burnt down gan sending their mosques where they to read and write.

"bandits hiding *use of the so-called* f Islam" destroyed s. In the province ar a mullah was ecause he defended d took part in the ne of them who had d to death.

that the local popu- undaunted by the rampages of the the Afghan people, utting up growing he Hudzai tribe had the authorities for omising to protect swearing vengeance who attempted to

Mrs Gandhi with President Mobuto of Zaire in her Delhi office yesterday. The president is on an official visit to India.

Bay of Pylos heavily polluted by oil after tanker disaster

From Mario Modiano
Athens, April 1

The Bay of Pylos, one of the most beautiful historical sites of Greece, was not after all spared the ecological disaster that had been feared after the sinking last February of a Greek tanker carrying 100,000 tons of crude oil.

The public prosecutor of Kalamata started proceedings today against those responsible for the sinking of Irene's Serenade, in which two members of the crew died after an explosion.

The charges are manslaughter, causing a shipwreck by negligence, and polluting the sea and shore. The mayor of Pylos and the local fishermen are considering legal action against the owners of the tanker.

Reports from Pylos indicate that, despite Herculean efforts by special teams of the Ministry of Merchant Marine and foreign experts called in by the shipowners, the bay is still heavily polluted. Large patches of bituminous oil cover most of the shores. A magnificent sandy beach at Yalova was reported to be soaked in tar.

An ichthyologist from the Ministry of Agriculture has confirmed the tales of woe of local fishermen. It now seems that they will be out of business for some time because of large-scale spawn destruction.

Efforts to remove the oil manually yielded vast numbers of cans and plastic bags full of thick black liquid which are being sent to a power station in Megalopolis. But the overall result is poor, considering that the leakage of oil from the sunken ship apparently continues.

The worst aspect is that large slicks escaped from the closed bay and are now threatening other tourist areas. Reports from Zante, for instance, said that because of prevailing south winds a four-mile-long slick had already polluted the island's popular beach at Lagana.

The tanker has settled at a depth of about 150ft where, *archaeologists fear, it may have* crashed into some of the 50 warships of the Ottoman fleet sunk during the Battle of Navarino in 1827.

Until now, the wrecks could be seen and it was hoped that one day a few could be raised and put on display.

ipo election defeat predicted

Knipe
f the victory of Mr abe, in the Southern elections, Dr Gerrit South African Ad- General of South (Namibia) remains at the South West ople's Organization ill be defeated in in the mandated

nterview with *The* ondon, Dr Viljoen at voting in pro- ions for Namibian e would be affected odesian result. He essment of a likely efore Mr Mugabe's been that Swapo only 25 per cent of

Now he believed ld be "less hand- feated—perhaps re- er cent.

tained that unlike 's party in Rhodesia, support primarily ible — the Ovambo. id, unlike events in any Namibian intel- already returned to y to work for a non- tion. Furthermore, ponents, the intern- Democratic Turnhalle party (DTA) was effectively multi-racial with only four whites among its 46 members in the present Constituent Assembly.

If, contrary, to his predictions, Swapo won power, Dr Viljoen said he would be less sanguine. Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, was no Mugabe, he maintained, and his lieutenants were "not very bright either".

However, South Africa remains anxious for a resolution of the Namibian independence issue—the sooner it could be reached, she better, said Dr Viljoen.

Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, yesterday proposed June 15 as a date for the implementation of the United Nations plan for independence. However, several issues still have to be resolved.

South Africa still questions the feasibility of the United Nations proposals for a demilitarized zone 600 miles long and 60 miles deep which contains more than half the envisaged electorate. Agreement has yet to be reached over the number of military bases South Africa would retain within the DMZ. South Africa is also demanding the explicit renunciation by Swapo of its demand for armed bases

Other outstanding issues include the size of the proposed United Nations force, its composition, the percentage of it to be deployed in the DMZ and whether Swapo guerrilla forces should be allowed to return bearing arms.

Dr Viljoen said that the manner in which Mr Mugabe's guerrillas had been allowed to return "as symbols of victory" clearly had a significant impact on an unsophisticated electorate.

If agreement could be reached on the outstanding issues, said Dr Viljoen, elections could be staged by the end of the year or early in 1981.

Dr Viljoen said there was a big backlash in the territory over the United Nations' clear sympathies with Swapo—which it had recognized as the sole political representative of the people.

He said his visit to London was *not primarily connected* with the negotiations on Namibian independence. He was here to address the South Africa Club but he would be making a courtesy visit to the Foreign Office today to see Lord Carrington.

Korea talks soured by alleged border incursions

From Jacqueline Reditt
Seoul, April 1

When North and South Korean delegates met for the fifth round of the present talks in Panmunjom today the atmosphere was strained as a result of recent alleged incursions into the South by armed North Korean spies.

Mr Lee Dong Bok, spokesman for the South Korean delegation, described the atmosphere at today's meeting, which lasted just over an hour and a half, as the tensest so far in this series of contacts.

The South Koreans told their northern counterparts that attempts by North Korean spies to infiltrate the South were not conductive to improved relationships.

Last week South Korean forces shot dead three armed frogmen who had swum across the Han River to the south side of the demilitarised zone, sank what they allege was a North Korean spy ship, and fought off an attack by a North Korean patrol.

The South Koreans proposed an early end to today's meeting

liant inquiry plan infuriates Vietnam veterans

dias Aiton
April 1

nam Veterans Asso- Australia has bitterly lans announced by nment to determine servicemen were exposure to toxic during the Vietnam

ciation plans to sue ment for millions of compensation for ill- ong veterans and ts among their chil- se, it claims, they contact with Agent e defoliant.

al inquiry that will ars, at an estimated 2m (£1m) and in- 160,000 people was by the Government

About 40,000 veterans will be studied as will about 100,000 children. The veterans will be compared with a control group of 20,000 soldiers who did *not* serve in Vietnam.

Mr Holt McMinn, national president of the Vietnam Veterans' Association, said: "The inquiry is a delaying tactic. We want a judicial inquiry. Some of our members haven't got that *long* to live."

Mr David Teed, the veterans' legal adviser, says they will apply to the High Court for leave to issue 6,000 writs against the Government and the manufacturers of chemicals used in Vietnam. He believes damages could run into millions of dollars.

The Government has fully accepted the outline of the study proposed in February by the Commonwealth Institute of Health at the University of Sydney. The intention was to define the incidence and type of illnesses in veterans as well as genetic abnormalities and birth defects in their children. Veterans' wives would be studied for frequency of miscarriage.

Mr Even Addermann, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, says the survey will need to trace at least 90 per cent of the 41,000 Australians who served in Vietnam. Factors such as tobacco, drugs and working conditions will have to be taken into account before the effects of the herbicide can be measured.

Other data will include the location of units during service *in Vietnam and the times,* places and frequency of herbicide use, including Agent Orange. A committee of scientists will be appointed within the next few days to monitor and, if necessary, improve the design of the study.

But Mr McMinn is adamant that everything announced by the Government is nothing but a delaying tactic. "We are bloody furious. We wanted a judicial inquiry. This inquiry (the scientific survey) will go on for years. How can they hope to interview 40,000 Vietnam veterans?"

He claims that Australian veterans of the Vietnam war are dying now from illnesses they had received while exposed to chemicals during active service.

Law Report April 1 1980 House of Lords

VAT tribunal's appellate powers limited

Customs and Excise Commissioners v J H Corbitt (Numismatists) Ltd

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Salmon, Lord Scarman and Lord Lane

A value added tax tribunal has no power, on an appeal by a taxable person under section 40 of the Finance Act, 1972, against an assessment to VAT, to review the exercise of a discretion conferred by statute or statutory order on the Customs and Excise Commissioners and substitute its own view for theirs. Such a tribunal has no general appellate jurisdiction.

The House of Lords, Lord Salmon dissenting, allowed an appeal by the commissioners from the Court of Appeal (the Master of the Rolls and Sir Stanley Rees, Lord Justice Eveleigh dissenting) ([1979] 3 WLR 291), which had allowed an appeal by J. H. Corbitt (Numismatists) Ltd, dealer in antique coins, of Newcastle upon Tyne, from Mr Justice Neill. The Court of Appeal had held that where the commissioners had found, under the Value Added Tax (Works of Art, Antiques and Scientific Collections) Order, 1972, that the dealer's records had not been kept in accordance with a notice issued by them or were such as the commissioners "may recognize as sufficient for those *purposes*" and *accordingly did* not qualify under a "margin" scheme for reduced VAT on the sale of antique goods, a value added tax tribunal could, on the dealer's appeal, review the commissioners' decision and substitute its own decision for that of the *commissioners.*

By the 1972 Order, made under the Finance Act, 1972, a scheme of relief on the VAT rate of then 8 per cent was allowed to dealers *in antiques more than 100 years* old, VAT being chargeable only on the difference between the purchase and resale prices of such goods. Under article 3(5) of the Order the scheme was not applicable unless the dealer kept such records and accounts as the commissioners "may specify in a notice published by them for the purposes of this Order or may recognize as sufficient for those purposes". The commissioners issued a notice No 712 in 1973 specifying how the books and records should be kept. In 1976 a customs and excise officer called at the dealer's premises, examined his records, and decided that they did not comply with the requirements. The commissioners made an assessment of VAT under section 31 of the Act on the basis that the "margin scheme" did not apply.

The dealer appealed to a VAT tribunal at Newcastle under section 40(1)(b) of the Act. The commissioners contended that their refusal to recognize the dealer's *records as "sufficient" was a* matter entirely within their discretion and not subject to review. The tribunal, by a majority, held that it had power to go into all matters relating to the appeal de novo and to substitute its own decision. The judge, on the commissioners' appeal, reversed the tribunal.

Mr Peter Scott, QC, Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr Andrew Collins for the commissioners; Mr David Goldberg and Mr John Walters for Corbitts.

Lord Diplock and Lord Simon agreed with the speech of Lord Lane.

LORD LANE said that the House was concerned to determine what powers a VAT tribunal had to review the exercise of the commissioners' discretion under VAT legislation.

In ordinary cases VAT was charged on the supply of goods by a trader as a percentage of the value of the *supply* by him to his purchaser, that amount being paid by the trader to the commissioners. But he was allowed to set off against the tax so payable the amount of tax *previously* charged on the goods supplied to him—the "input tax". That worked fairly, provided that the person selling to the trader was himself a taxable person. *If he was not,* there was no input tax of which the trader could take advantage. Thus in trades where purchases were often made from non-taxable persons (as *in the present case*) the trader's selling price on to his customer for the same article (in the absence of special rules) would have to vary according to whether he had bought from a taxable or non-taxable person. That would result in unfair anomalies.

The Finance Act, 1972, recognized that difficulty. It provided *by section 14(1)*: "The Treasury may by order make provision for securing a reduction of the tax chargeable on the supply of goods of such descriptions as may be *specified in the order in* cases where no tax was chargeable on a previous supply of the goods and such other conditions are satisfied as may be specified in the order or *as may be imposed* by the commissioners in pursuance of the order."

Those words expressly provided for two stages of delegated direction: the first under the order itself, the second by the commissioners in pursuance of such order.

One of the orders made under the section was the Value Added Tax (Works of Art, Antiques and Scientific Collections) Order, 1972, which gave concessions to traders by means of what had come to be known as a "margin scheme". It was contained in article 4(1) of the Order.

Such a scheme was obviously *open to abuse; hence the requirement* that a trader should keep certain specified records before he could take advantage of it. Article 3(5) of the Order provided: "Article 4 does not apply to any supply by a person unless he keeps such records and accounts as the commissioners may specify in a notice published by them for the purposes of this Order or may recognize as sufficient for those purposes."

The commissioners did specify their requirements in a notice published by them—notice No. 712 (the Blue Book). It was couched in disarmingly simple language and described the margin scheme *and the accounts and records* required to be kept to bring a trader within the scheme's ambit. By paragraph 18, if a person failed to comply with any condition of the notice he "may be held accountable for tax on the value of his sales". Corbitts, who were registered dealers, admittedly did not keep the required records—they were in breach of the first half of article 3(5).

Moreover, the commissioners did not recognize the records in fact kept by Corbitts as being "sufficient" for the purposes of the Order in the exercise of the discretion given them by the second half of article 3(5). That was the crux of the appeal. Was that failure or refusal by the commissioners to exercise their discretion in favour of Corbitts something which the VAT tribunal was entitled to *review*, or was *it* an exercise of discretion which was subject to review, if at all, only by way of judicial review in the High Court? The commis*sioners contended that their dis*cretion was not subject to review by the tribunal and that accordingly they were entitled to assess the trader for "the amount of tax *due from him to the best of their* judgment" pursuant to their powers under section 31(1) of the 1972 Act. They did so assess the tax they considered to be due from him.

The relevant appeal provisions in section 40(1) read: "An appeal shall lie to a value added tax tribunal . . . against the decision *of the commissioners with respect* to any of the following matters: . . .(b) an assessment under section 31 of this Act or the amount of such an assessment."

The VAT tribunal, by a majority, concluded that those provisions entitled it to inquire into all matters leading up to the assessment and consequently to substitute its own views for those of the commissioners as to what records should be recognized as sufficient under the second half of article 3(5). Mr Justice Neill disagreed with that conclusion, but the majority of the Court of Appeal held that the tribunal's views were correct.

The question was whether on a true construction of the various provisions set out the trader was given a right of appeal to the tribunal against an exercise of the commissioners' discretion.

The answer was brief. It could not be and was not disputed that the VAT tribunal had no jurisdiction to review the requirements as to books and records laid down (as the Act authorized the commissioners to do) in the various appendices to the Blue Book. Its task on an appeal was confined on that aspect to an inquiry as to whether the trader's books and records in fact complied with the Blue Book require*ments. That being so, it seemed to* his Lordship inconceivable that any different powers should be given to the tribunal in respect of the second half of article 3(5), namely, the *discretion in the com*missioners to recognize or not recognize records actually kept as being sufficient. The two halves of the article were part of the *same system of approval or non-*approval of records, the first set out in terms in the Order, the second in the shape of a more flexible discretion. In neither case *was there room for review by the* tribunal except on matters of fact.

The judge had expressed the matter ([1979] 3 WLR 291,298) in words which his Lordship was *unable to better*: "It is common ground . . . that in so far as conditions are imposed in Notice No 712 itself, they are not conditions which the appellate body, the tribunal, can interfere with in the sense that it can substitute its view as to what were the appropriate conditions for the view of the commissioners. The tribunal can certainly consider whether or not those conditions have as a matter of fact been complied with. That is something which would be a suitable subject of an appeal. But what it cannot do is to say, 'We do not think that Appendix A or Appendix B, or whatever it may be, ought to be in that form; it should be in some other form.' Once it is conceded . . . that the commissioners are empowered, subject to the control of the Treasury, to lay down the conditions in a general notice such as Notice No 712 in such a form as they consider proper and that that power is not subject to appeal, it seems to me impossible to contend that the discretion given by the final words of Article 3(5) 'or may recognize as sufficient for those purposes' is a different kind of discretion which is subject to appeal".

There was another aspect of the matter. Assuming that the tribunal had the power to review the commissioners' discretion, it could only properly do so if it were shown that the commissioners had acted in a way which no reasonable panel of commissioners could have acted. If it had been intended to give a supervisory jurisdiction of that nature to the tribunal one would have expected clear words to that effect in the Act. But no such words were to be found. Section 40(1) set out nine specific headings on which an appeal might be brought and seemed by inference to negative the existence of any general supervisory jurisdiction.

For those reasons his Lordship would allow the appeal and restore the order of the judge.

LORD SALMON, for dismissing the appeal, said that no doubt the commissioners sometimes made mistakes in assessments, and they were also the tax collectors. It would seem very odd if, in a free society, the tax collector was the sole arbiter of whether his assessment was right and the amount payable by the taxpayer was left solely to his discretion. His Lordship considered that the commissioners had no such power. They were in much the same position as the income tax collectors, whose decisions were never final and binding but could always be appealed and dealt with by an entirely independent superior body such as the special commissioners and the VAT tribunals.

His Lordship could not agree that because a taxpayer had no appeal against his assessment in respect of what the commissioners might have done under the first part of article 3(5) it followed that he had no appeal against his assessment in respect of what the commissioners did under the second part of that article. Under that part, they had to decide whether the entries in the taxpayer's books were sufficient notwithstanding that he had not complied with the first part. It might well be that discretion played a part in the commissioners' decision on that point. But his Lordship did not understand how that could or should deprive the taxpayer of his statutory right to appeal to the tribunal.

Solicitors: *Mr G. F. Cloak*; Kingsley, Napley & Co for Nicholson, Martin & Wilkinson, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Bench and Bar join in tribute to Lord Widgery

Almost exactly nine years ago Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, as Lord Chancellor, was in the Lord Chief Justice's court welcoming Lord Widgery on his inauguration. Today in the same court Lord Hailsham, again as Lord Chancellor, had the *melancholy* privilege of saying farewell to him on his retirement in the face of growing physical infirmity.

Lord Hailsham, flanked by Lord Widgery, *resplendent in his scarlet* robes, Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Megaw, the senior Lord Justice of Appeal, and Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor, presided over a court overcrowded with judiciary of all ranks, silks and junior counsel, officials, solicitors and members of the public.

Lord Hailsham said that nine years ago his last words were that in this age when so much had been devalued and brought low, one thing had retained its lustre *undiminished*: the integrity, impartiality and professional skill of the higher judiciary in England and Wales. In the Queen's Bench Division and the Criminal Division *of the Court of Appeal* that had been due in no small measure to the leadership, character and sheer industry of successive holders of the ancient, honourable and important office of Lord Chief Justice. Now Lord Widgery handed on to his successor the right to wear the famous chain of office and to preside without stain and without blemish of any kind.

In 1971 his Lordship had spoken with pride of the profession's honourable record in wartime, of which Lord Widgery was a shining example; of the many kindnesses which his Lordship personally had received in common with other members of the Bar when appearing before him—strong, courteous and humane occupant of the judicial bench.

His Lordship had spoken also of the business which fell on the shoulders of the Lord Chief Justice; of the work of the Divisional Court and the Criminal Division of the Court of Appeal; of the leadership and coherence he was expected to show as the senior of his distinguished group of puisnes; and not least of the constant counsel and assistance which the Lord Chief Justice gave to successive holders of the Lord Chancellor's office in judicial appointments, conferment of silk, and in all the manifold problems of practice and procedure and organization of the Crown Courts with which the Lord Chancellor was expected to deal.

Gone were the days when the Lord Chancellor's Office and the Lord Chief Justice regarded one another with suspicion almost as rivals. Had Lord Elwyn-Jones been present he would have wished to echo *his* Lordship's expression of gratitude for all the help and wisdom Lord Widgery had given them both.

Lord Widgery had been appointed in the first moments of the inauguration of the new Crown Courts, but the bringing into being of the new system was the work of close cooperation between Lord Widgery and the Lord Chancellor's department. All the time the Lord Chief Justice had been giving the main hours of his day to the ceaseless work of the Criminal Appeal Division—and for the first time under his presidency it sat in the provinces—and to the Divisional Court, not to speak of occasional forays into the work of the Queen's Bench Division and Crown Court at first instance.

The present was not the time to speak of the constant stream of judgments by which Lord Widgery had added to and enriched the great river of English case law. The work of the Divisional Court in particular covered now an immense range of cases, not merely in the supervision of magistrates' courts, but in the *rapidly growing jurisprudence of* administrative law—one of the new and really remarkable achievements of the British judiciary both north and south of the Border in recent years.

His Lordship could not say goodbye without a word of sympathy and sadness for the heroic struggle Lord Widgery had put up in recent months in carrying out the immense duties of his office in the face of growing physical infirmity. His self-sacrifice in abandoning the strug*gle now was not the least mark* of the sincerity and self-abnegation and public spirit he had shown throughout his life.

Lord Widgery and Lady Widgery would carry with them into retirement the admiration, love, friendship and the prayers of them all.

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, said that he attended with the Solicitor General, the chairman of the Bar Council, the Director of Public Prosecutions, supported by many members of the Bar, the president of the Law Society and many members of the society. He was truly present as amicus, not amicus curiae but as amicus judicis.

During his tenure of office Lord Widgery had won the admiration of the legal profession and, Sir Michael suspected, many of the litigants who had appeared before him.

Too little was known of the great burden that the office carried beyond time in court. The duties and decisions involved in *the administration of justice* across the whole range of the Crown Courts, in addition to the Queen's Bench Division, added immensely to the work load, and *Sir Michael knew of the hours* which Lord Widgery spent outside the sitting of the court discharging those functions.

Sir Michael wondered whether we *should not devise* a way to help the Lord Chief Justice to discharge the burden. All wished his Lordship and Lady Widgery happiness, good health and contentment. When he *retired* through the court door for the last time he would know that he took with him their very greatest respect and deepest affection.

Mr Simon Brown said that he was particularly anxious to associate the Junior Bar with all the good wishes that had been expressed.

Mr Alan Fletcher, speaking on behalf of all present and past members of Lord Widgery's former chambers and their clerks, associated himself with everything that had been said.

Lord Widgery, in response, thanked everyone who had helped to keep the judicial machine in good shape. He said that he was leaving somewhat earlier than he would have wished. However, the judicial role was a demanding one and the standards of fitness which might suffice in some professions would not always do for the Lord *Chief Justice. He would take with* him the happiest memories of the 19 years which he had served on the High Court bench.

Court of Appeal

Attempting to pervert course of justice

Regina v Machin

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice Eveleigh and Mr Justice O'Connor

[Judgment delivered March 28]

An attempt to pervert the course of justice is a substantive offence consisting of conduct which has a tendency and is intended to pervert the course of justice. The word "attempt" is misleading, but it is convenient for use in a case where proof cannot be given that the course of justice was actually perverted.

The Court of Appeal so stated when giving reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Lawrence Machin, aged 37, of Rotherham, Yorkshire, from conviction at Doncaster Crown Court (Judge Michael Walker) of attempting to pervert the course of public justice. The particulars of the indictment charged that he had committed the offence by fabricating evidence of a false allegation that he had been assaulted by two police constables and sustained an eye injury at a police station, and by inciting Brian Allen to give false evidence in proceedings against him for offences of permitting a vehicle to be used on a road without insurance. He was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.

Mr Lionel Scott for the appellant; Mr R. M. Harrison for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH said that, on one day in August, 1978, police twice stopped a vehicle belonging to the appellant. A different man was driving it on each occasion; neither had a valid driving licence. Some days later the appellant made written statements to the police claiming that neither man had permission to use the vehicle.

Some three weeks afterwards he went to the police station in connexion with something else and was accompanied by Brian Allen and Keith Shaw, who waited outside. In the station the appellant dictated two statements to the effect that he had given the two drivers permission to drive and knew that neither held a driving licence or was insured.

The prosecution's case was that, when the appellant left the station, he asked Allen to punch him in the eye, *and he did so* with the result that the eye began to swell. The appellant told Shaw and Mrs Shaw that the police had hit him, and he said the same thing to *his wife* and told her to telephone the Doncaster police and complain, which she did. He made a similar allegation to his solicitor and a hospital doctor, and went to a photographer who photographed the eye, but the appellant did not collect the photograph. He had also asked Allen to give evidence that the police caused the injury and Allen agreed.

The appellant made a written statement admitting the facts. However, his evidence was that the *statement* had been composed by the police and he had signed it because they had threatened to have his children put into care if he did not sign. He denied the facts alleged by the prosecution.

At the close of the prosecution's case counsel submitted that the facts alleged did not go far enough to amount to an attempt. On appeal he argued that to charge "attempting to pervert the course of public justice" was to charge an inchoate offence, and that the jury should have been directed how they might decide whether or not an act was sufficiently proximate to amount to an attempt.

In his direction to the jury the judge followed the words of Baron Pollock in *R v Vreenese* ([1891] 1 QB 360) which was referred to in *R v Andrews* ([1973] QB 422) and *R v Rowell* ([1978] 1 WLR 132).

The law was concerned to forbid unlawful conduct which might result in a miscarriage of justice. There were specific common law offences, such as embracery and personating a juryman. There were statutory offences, for example, the conceiling of information for reward about an arrestable offence, contrary to section 5(1) of the Criminal Law Act, 1967. On the other hand, as was pointed out in the Law Commission Report on offences relating to interference with the course of justice (Law Com No 96), the common law recognized a wide general offence variously referred to as perverting or obstructing the course of justice, obstructing or interfering with the administration of justice, and defeating the due course, or the ends, of justice.

The particular *acts or conduct* in question might take many different forms, including conduct that amounted in itself to some other criminal offence or attempt thereat in the strict sense of an inchoate offence.

The gist of the offence was conduct which might lead to a miscarriage of justice, whether or not a miscarriage actually occurred. Their Lordships therefore agreed that, as was said in *Rowell*, the use of the word "attempt" in the present context was misleading.

The word "attempt" was convenient for use in the case where it could not be proved that the course of justice was actually perverted, but it did no more than describe a substantive offence which consisted of conduct which had tendency and was intended to pervert the course of justice. To do an act with the intention of perverting the course of justice was not of itself enough; the act must also have that tendency.

Therefore, the jury should not be directed to assess the conduct of the accused in terms of proximity to an ultimate offence, but should be left to consider its tendency and the intention of the accused—as had been done in the present case. The acts alleged did have a tendency to pervert the course of justice, even though the appellant's plan was not pursued to a final successful conclusion. The verdict was clearly supported by the evidence. The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Registrar of Criminal Appeals; Mr M. J. Rose, Sheffield.

Social Focus

How to prove that comprehensive schools have not failed

With the barometer set "very stormy" for the future of comprehensive education and the Government committed to taking us back on the road to selection, an appraisal of some of the positive results of reorganization is long overdue. Today well over 80 per cent of secondary pupils are in comprehensive schools as compared with some 7 per cent in 1964 when Labour began its remarkable, probably unique example of massive structural change in a school system. Yet though we have had political polemic in plenty and a surfeit of statistical skirmishes on exam passes, there has been no major synoptic survey *(let alone evaluation)* of what is *different* in a positive sense in the new system.

It would be absurd if official as well as popular judgment on the success or failure of the far reaching changes of the past 15 years depended on the arid sophistications of statisticians, on fragmented studies of some of the developments, or on political prejudice one way or the other.

Surely the real test of the new system is whether and how far it has achieved what it set out to do. That was to increase substantially the opportunities of the mass of children who suffered negative discrimination under the divided system and, it was hoped, thereby to raise their educational levels. It was R. H. Tawney, dealing with social policy, who said that where you had a two-tier system then the lower tier would inevitably be worse off. There is no question that the secondary modern schools received treatment inferior to the grammar schools in almost every respect and this had serious consequences for the education of their pupils.

Looking back, as one who helped to pioneer the change and was head of schools in both systems, I do not think there is any doubt that reorganization changed all that. Where an area has *gone comprehensive there is now one* level of provision in resources, the "tools of the trade", books, materials and equipment and, most important of all, staffing. Yet there is little comment on the enormous difference this has made.

Though the newly built secondary moderns were sometimes not too badly off in facilities and amenities, comprehensives were usually planned to the best grammar school standards, or even better, as for example in the case of workshops for technical studies. Again, the secondary moderns usually suffered from severe shortages of specialist and graduate teachers who gravitated to the grammar schools where they were able to teach to more advanced levels and had better salary prospects. This decisive dichotomy has disappeared and the comprehensives have their full *quota of specialist staff.*

For the first time, as a result, there has been the possibility of giving children something like an all-round education. Science and language laboratories, for example, and as far as they are available, the appropriate specialist teachers, have fundamentally changed *the curricular patterns of secondary* education for masses of children. Some commentators have sneeringly referred to the new "palaces" that were built: *they conveniently forget that these* made possible the educational objectives they frequently demanded—science, art and music, languages and physical recreation as central features of secondary education.

Broadening the curriculum was thus a crucial feature of the changeover. While the Department of Education and Science woke up to the benefits of a core curriculum like a dormouse after a long winter sleep, the idea was at the heart of the educational thinking of the comprehensive pioneers. They were concerned, too, not only with extending the educational programme of the secondary modern, but also of the grammar school pupil. In how many grammar schools, for example, was technical education taken seriously or even provided? It was in the grammar *schools, with their almost exclusively* academic orientation, that the alleged failure of schools to appreciate the importance of productive industry originated. How much worse that problem would be but for reorganization, which widely extended technical education. Yet you will look in vain for any recognition of this in the prejudiced pronouncements of the anti-comprehensive platform.

It is fashionable today to press the claims of the gifted child. Fair enough—but let us not forget that the biggest educational weakness has always been *the failure to give a fair deal for large* numbers of children at the other end of the ability spectrum. Here the comprehensives have begun seriously to dent *the problem for the first time with the* enormous increase in attention paid to these disadvantaged and neglected children. Remedial education has become a major new discipline made possible by the favourable staffing ratios of comprehensives which secondary moderns did not have. And along with this has come the key role now played in secondary education of pastoral care, which was practically non existent before.

With all my inner city school experience I shudder to think what these festering areas would have been like but for the skilled and dedicated work of pastoral staffs grappling with almost intractable difficulties while under fire from the gibes of cheap, sensational commentators blethering mischievously about blackboard jungles. It is all too often forgotten that the comprehensive reform coincided with a new permissive ambience in society. We should be grateful to the schools for the way they are trying to cope with social problems not of their making, thrust upon them by parents, the media and "progressives" who want the schools to treat children like adults.

We hear a great deal these days, and rightly so, of the gap in the education of the 16-to-19 age group and of the effect of this on the economy. Let us therefor remember that while staying on after the leaving age was very much a minority experience in the secondary *moderns, more than 60 per cent of com*prehensives have sixth forms and to that extent are alleviating the problem. For these pupils are largely "new" *sixth formers, outside the academic* tradition our "education and industry" gurus so often attack. The contribution of the comprehensives in curriculum *innovation for these youngsters has not* been recognized.

It is time a proper study was made of the total effect on our education system *of all these developments. I am sure the* result would be to lay forever that unsubstantial but malignant ghost, the "failure" of the comprehensive school.

Max Morris

Training a new generation of engineers

Two recent unconnected events—the publication of the "Finniston" report, and the collapse of Meccano—may each have a significant impact on the training and education of engineers in the United Kingdom.

It was no surprise that the major part of the Finniston report on engineering in the United Kingdom deals with training and education. This was a relatively easy topic to cover compared with the first brief—to consider how industry utilizes engineers. However, it is an appropriate emphasis, for on it will rest the future of United Kingdom engineering. Implementation of the recommendations will dramatically affect all concerned with the "formation" of engineers. It will change the face of university engineering departments, their relationship with their universities and between them and the government.

Whereas engineering departments have too often become passengers in university development, many will now become minor growth points. Whereas in the past the UGC alone has exercised financial control over universities, now an "Engineering Authority" may also have some control over parts of universities' work. Universities' willingness to accept this control, the willingness of some engineering departments to support others better placed to satisfy Finniston's recommendations and the ability of those within engineering departments, and the willingness of individuals to enter engineering departments, will influence the long term impact of Finniston.

Much could be gained, but the prob*lems are substantial. The report recom*mends a change in the emphasis of education and training for engineering. There will be a move away from a predominantly science orientated approach to a more professional and integrated approach. At the top, a two-tier qualification structure is to exist. Approximately 25 per cent of the present throughput of undergraduate engineers will work for an MEng degree to become "diplomane" engineers. These will be the "top notch" engineers.

MEng courses will include basic engineering practice and professional studies in engineering. BEng courses, for 75 per cent of degree students, will be shorter, less intensive, and perhaps more akin to much current undergraduate degree work. Those responsible for establishing the MEng courses will have much to learn from the "enriched" engineering courses established in seven universities in 1978. These, although not without their critics, have been successful in attracting a high proportion of the better qualified school leavers. There will now be more courses "fishing in the same pool".

Which universities will run the new courses? What type of staff are needed for this approach to engineering? Where will they be found? Where will the additional funds come from? Will *industry accept the new approach and* the greater involvement of academics in the practical training and development of engineers?

*Little will be achieved if all univer*sity engineering departments mount new MEng type courses. Larger departments, with larger courses now attract*ing better quality students may have a* greater claim. What therefore will happen to the small departments where the resources required to mount the new—professionally oriented courses may not be available: the new courses may be considered appropriate for the high status engineering departments, mainly those with a strong research reputation. Interest in and commitment to research and the advancement of knowledge may not however, be the best background in which to train engineers for creative design and manufacturing jobs in industry. For the non-research oriented *engineering students, newer depart*ments concentrating on teaching and without substantial research commitments might be more appropriate and *less distracting contexts in which to* establish new courses.

If BEng courses are to be associated with the less able students, and are perhaps to become the norm in some universities, how do we cater for those who wish to study engineering but not *become professional engineers? It is* essential that some of those going into financial management, personnel and other industrial professions have some knowledge and commitment to engineering. But many of these are the brighter students, so will they still be attracted to conventional engineering courses if these are in some way devalued? Will those universities which continue with three-year engineering science type courses fail to get professional recognition? If so many of the present high status courses would not be recognized, and some universities would have to pursue either an entirely "unofficial" form of engineering education or run down their courses and thus lose good students to other subjects.

The staff required to design and run professionally oriented, integrated engineering courses are a rare breed. They must be academically well qualified with substantial and recent engineering achievements, but many staff now in university engineering departments have been there for a long time and lack recent professional achievements (other than research). Even now it is difficult to attract good staff to university engineering departments, so how will the new staff be recruited? It may be necessary to copy the medical schools, in which clinical staff are paid more and *benefit from different terms and con*ditions of employment.

The development of a more clinical approach will involve improvements in the business side of courses, since most professional engineers work in a commercial environment and most engineering courses are weak on the practice of engineering in that context. This is engineering, not "management", and must be treated as such. Too few university academics will be capable of adequately integrating such a component into what until now have been largely analytically oriented/science *type engineering courses.*

A new breed of engineering academics, and a new approach to engineering education, will be necessary and *desirable. Some separate funding of* university departments to permit such developments may be necessary. Substantial changes in the internal management of university funds and the development of new and more meaningful relationships between university and industry are essential if the recommendations are to be implemented. All this must be done if the "formation" of engineers is to march the needs of the manufacturing industries in this country.

The collapse of the Meccano Company in November 1979 was unfortunate. For many engineers the use of Meccano (and the like) was an important formative experience influencing choice of university course and subsequent career. Many of the more committed applicants for university engineering places are still in part motivated by hobby interests. The loss of Meccano is therefore *an ironic postscript to the dawn of the* post-Finniston era of engineering training and education. Finniston is recommending a more "experiential" *approach to engineering education.* The new approach will be more like engineering in practice involving learning by doing, with motivation through achievement. If this is to succeed then interest in engineering must be bred at an earlier stage, and in schools.

Those who have no interest in creating, understanding and analysing things are unlikely suddenly to develop such interests on leaving school. The best engineers and best engineering students developed an interest in artefacts when young—the "Meccano influence". If Finniston now introduces a substantial "Meccano" *effect—or as Barnes Wallis* would have caled it, a "heuristic" experience—in engineering education and training, much can be achieved.

Ray Wild

The author is director of the special engineering programme at Brunel University.

Children's Books

Searching for genius that will sell

For publishers, as for other entrepreneurs, these are fretful times. The rich feeding-grounds of "the institutional market" are withering at the edges. Production costs increase remorselessly. Inflation accounting calls for techniques not wholly natural to an industry that gained much of its prestige as a cottage one. It therefore seems somewhat less than prudent for a publisher's editor, safely ensconced behind a rampart of success, to choose this moment to quit home comforts and make a fresh start.

This however is just what Julia MacRae, the managing director of Hamish Hamilton Children's Books, has done. Concerned that the administrative burdens of working in a large company were increasingly distracting her from the central job of editing, she last year set up her own firm, Julia MacRae Books.

Miss MacRae has been wise enough to see that cottages are not yet back in fashion for publishers and has established her imprint under the London roof *of an American company,* Franklin Watts Ltd. This has given her full editorial freedom, and at the same time has enabled her to find the capital for her first list and to bring into the new firm three of her colleagues from Hamish Hamilton.

In a policy statement at the launching of her first books a *few weeks ago, Julia MacRae* stressed the laudable aims of *her company: to publish fewer* books per year than seems to be the wont of many firms these days, and thereby to give the growing list a distinctiveness which is too often lost in today's call for increasing turnover and quickly shifting titles. For all its laudability though, such a policy does not of itself produce works of genius and—at least as far as children's books are concerned—it does not bring Miss MacRae much nearer to solving a dilemma that is likely to get sharper in the next few years. Who is going to pay money for distinctiveness?

As it happens, no one has posed this question more graphically than Julia MacRae herself. In an address to a *conference in 1975 (published* by Ward Lock Educational in *The Content of Reading*) she remarked on the gulf that exists *between the philosopher-libra*rians who would only give children books "of honesty, integrity and vision" and most of *the children themselves, who* have no mind for such things. Confronting her staff at Hamish Hamilton with a range of the firm's publications she had said a year or two before this: "Tell me which of these books you are actually going to give to a real live child for Christmas". The resultant painful silence had led to a determined effort to find books like Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, which might combine robust enjoyment with the high standards *of creative skill.*

Very Hungry Caterpillars do not exist in abundance, however (indeed most of Eric Carle's subsequent books have been deeply disappointing), and the first eight publications from Julia MacRae Books demonstrate something of the difficulty of getting the balance right between robustness and *skill.*

If one looks, for instance, at what is nominally the best-seller in the list—Alice and Martin Provensen's *The Mother Goose Book* (£4.95)—one finds a truly handsome folio edition *of some 150 nursery rhymes.* Every page opening has been planned with care, each of the crowding illustrations having *the simplicity of those in a* coloured chapbook. But the *cumulative effect of so much* cunning design runs counter to the jocose quality of the rhymes, and the book as a *whole* has a static, calculated air about it.

A rival volume published by World's Work, in almost the same format and on almost the same day, is Wallace Tripp's *Rhymes Without Reason* (£3.50), but here the illustrator has adopted a more spontaneous approach, stuffing his pages with a variety of witticisms and *vulgarities which fall in more* readily with the native anarchy of the chosen verses.

Three other picture books in the new list share something of the clinical chill that pervades *The Mother Goose Book*. They are an ABC story called *Alfred's Alphabet Walk*, by Victoria Chess (£3.75); a Georgian folk-tale called *The Fisherman's Son*, by Mirra Ginsburg, illustrated by Tony Chen (£3.95), and a rather snide moral fable by Anthony Browne called *Look What I've Got* (£3.95). With the exception of the latter (and of a pale, slow-moving teenage novel by Joan Lingard: *The File on Fraulein Berg*, (£4.50), all the books in this first list come from the United States and they bespeak two *things: a sensible recognition* by a new firm of the commercial value of cooperation in publishing, and a fairly clearly defined continuance of policies that proved successful at Hamish Hamilton.

And in two instances the method has really turned up winners: the first a charming picture book by Anita Lobel, with a funny, cleverly modulated text by her husband Arnold—*A Treeful of Pigs* (£3.50); the second an intriguing study of animal, vegetable and mineral forms seen through the eye of a scanning electron *microscope — Small Worlds Close Up* by Lisa Grillone and Joseph Gennaro (£3.95). In their different ways both these books have the immediacy of appeal and the continuing attractiveness that meet Julia MacRae's call for books that may "touch the lives" of a wide audience of children.

Brian Alderson

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LYRIC STUDIO: Last Week! Eves. 8. Sat. 8.30. No perf Good Fri.
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MIDDLE AGE SPREAD
"Delightfully funny." Dly Express.
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WEST END THEATRE AWARDS

LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage): Ton't 7.45. Tomor. 3.00 (low price mat.) & 7.45 DEATH OF A SALESMAN by Arthur Miller. (Note. Death of a Salesman replaces Travelle & Me Apr 10, 11, 12 m. & e., 18, 19 m. & e.). Building Closed Good Friday.

NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252 FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON/COTTESLOE. Car park. Restaurant. 928 3033. Credit card bkgs 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily. (incl. backstage) £1.25. Inf: 633 0880.

MAYFAIR S c.c. 01-629 3036. Mon.-Thurs. evgs. 8.0. Fri., Sat. 6.0. 8.45.
SUSANNAH YORK DANIEL MASSEY
DONALD PICKERING
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"STARTLINGLY BEAUTIFUL ... ARTISTRY OF NO MEAN ORDER" Times. "FRAGILE BUBBLE OF DELIGHT" D. Mail. EXQUISITELY ARTICULATED" S. Standard. "Infinitely elegant ... For too long now the general critical lament has been of an absence of civilised intellectual West End evenings. Here is one, and if London doesn't flock to it then London doesn't deserve it" Punch.

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THE CLUB
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"Bitingly funny" The Times.
Until April 12th Evgs 7.30 Sat mat 2.30.

OLIVIER (NT's open stage): Ton't 7.30 THE WILD DUCK by Henrik Ibsen trans. by Christopher Hampton. Tomor. 7.30 Amadeus. Today 3.00 Pick of the Platforms a special mat. perf. of Iris Murdoch's Art and Eros, Vaclav Havel's Protest, Woody Allen's Death Knocks. All tkts £1.50. Building Closed Good Friday.

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Directed by Harold Prince
Group Sales Box Office 379 6061

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An evening with
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Closed this week for holidays. Reopens next Monday, April 7. Mon. Thurs. 8.30. Fri. & Sat. 6.0 & 8.30.

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Camillo Meghor as Nabucco (left), John Tranter as Zaccaria

glare of arc lamps visibly manoeuvred by technicians on top of lighting turrets which could double as watchtowers. Oddly, the famous "Va, pensiero" went less well than some of the other concerted numbers. But Mr Pimlott has an eye for a stage tableau, although his handling of movement is less assured.

Elgar Howarth, expert on contemporary music and adviser to the Grimethorpe Colliery Band, seemed on the surface a strange choice to take charge of this opera. Yet *Nabucco* needs a conductor who can double as bandmaster: few operas have more marches. The odd choice became an inspired one. Mr Howarth realized the red-blooded vitality of this score. Verdi was out to respond to the Scala's 1841 commission and prove that he could write as good an opera as anyone. It was raw, crude and immensely invigorating.

The Belgian baritone Camillo Meghor in the title role, making his company debut, was by far the most accomplished singer of the evening. He did not arrive on horse as Solera demanded, but instead astride a sea of dry ice. Even so he took command at once. The voice has a brown burnish to it, not always up to Verdi's legato but never lacking in attack. His Nabucco reflected the early Hollywood view of the Old Testament with gestures that would not have shamed a Wolfit and wild eyes suggesting that it would take less than a thunderbolt to bring on madness. John Tranter's Zaccaria, so often played as a rabble-rouser, was contrastingly restrained and delicately sung. Adrian Martin was a pleasing, light-voiced Ismaele, surely one of the least rewarding tenor roles Verdi composed.

None of the women rose above the mediocre. Milla Andrew's Abigaille was as extravagant in gesture as her presumed father Nabucco, rather like Anny Schlemm on an uninhibited evening, but the voice reacted indifferently to Verdi's demands and the wistful "Anch'io dischiuso" went for little. Glynebourne's 1977 prize-winner, Helen Walker, made a pretty but pallid Fenena; she will surely improve. The Anna was inadequate.

So it was an evening in which the honours went to conductor, orchestra and chorus, although In Steven Pimlott ENON have a producer to watch, especially if there is someone to lay a restraining hand on him.

Sparkling subtlety

The Rake's Progress
Covent Garden

Stanley Sadie

The Rake's Progress has always been something of an enigmatic opera, above all because of the way Stravinsky plays cat-and-mouse with his audience: teasing much of the time, but with the seriousness of the game always apt to show through. Yet it does not seem to be a troublesome work to produce; I do not think I have ever seen a staging of it that did not find a way of capitalizing on the brilliance of the *Auden-Kallman libretto* and indeed on the contradictions within the score itself.

It is really an opera for a house of modest size; but the new Covent Garden production—first given last June, when this paper with silent, and now for the first time revived—is remarkably successful. Its underlying theme, an identity between Auden and Rakewell, made manifest in Tom's pose in his soliloquy at the beginning of Act II, seems fairly pointless; certainly the juxtaposition of texts in the programme establishes little, for the analogy between Auden's one-time creed of self-knowledge and self-fulfillment and Tom's fecklessness and self-delusion is at best slender.

Elijah Moshinsky's staging is expert: busy, alive, swift-moving, sharp in atmosphere. The stage is sparely set: Timothy O'Brien and Tazeena Firth put the opera on a platform like a big inverted T which, with flats from the wings, some doorways and a drop curtain, does all that is needed. Their doorways are classical, but for their costumes they do not go back to Hogarth, rather to the mid-nineteenth century.

In principle this should not work; but, with a score that makes a point of cutting across strict notions of period integrity, it does, even if one jibs at bearing people in Dickensian garb uttering the sentiments of a century before.

Musically it is first-rate. Colin Davis conducted before; now it is Maurits Sillem, who without sacrificing crispness or precision emphasizes the fluidity and above all the richness of colour of the score. He paces it steadily but perceptively, though perhaps the over-extended Bedlam scene might profitably go more speedily.

Robert Tear is a magnificent Tom, clear and subtle in delivery, shading the sound beautifully and suggestively in conveying his dissolution. The new Anne is Felicity Lott, done with charm and spirit, a hint of sensuousness in the phrasing that happily warms Stravinsky's chill, especially in the ringing tone at, for example, "I'll go, I'll go to him". Nick Shadow is now sung by Donald McIntyre, another resourceful performance with plenty of ripe, dark tone and insinuating nuance. Patricia Johnson makes a wittily shrewish chatterbox of a Baba and Robert Lloyd a resonant Trulove.

Luciano Berio
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Paul Griffiths

Since 1958 Luciano Berio has been fathering a series of solo pieces, the *Sequenza* siblings. There are now nine of them, but the baby of the family, for percussion, is not yet ready for outings, so there were eight to be introduced in turn during Monday night's festive celebration held under the auspices of the London Music Digest. Berio himself was present to keep a paternal eye on his offspring, and most of them were in the care of the virtuoso musicians for whom they were created.

The oldest is for the flute, now quite an elegant young man, but often dreamy or puzzled in expression. Next came a harp solo, unpredictable as any 17-year-old, rippling and graceful but given to fits of spiteful bad temper which quite belie her appearance; but none of this bothers her 14-year-old sister, the only vocalist of the family who flambuoyantly parades the special attributes of song and speech.

The fourth, fifth and sixth members are all in their early teens too, but utterly different in character: the athlete at the piano, the clown at the trombone, the bookish child who worries at trembling chords on the viola. A little younger, the seventh is a bright lad gambolling around a single oboe note. The violin eighth is a difficult infant, at first going on and on with regular insistence, then running off in playful pirouettes, but finally settling into ominous, quiet repetitions.

This last, longest of the set, made an upbeat finale in a brilliant performance by Carlo Chiarappa, who awakened the memories of Bartók and Paganini and Corelli that lie in what is an aural portrait of the violin. But there was delight and astonishment, too, in the more familiar items: in the snappy attacks and luminous resonances of Katia Labèque at the piano, in the pure tone and intelligent phrasing of the flautist Alain Marion, in the wit of Heinz Holliger's oboe and the humour of Stuart Dempster's trombone, the sheer abundant virtuosity of Cathy Berberian, Francis Pierre and Walter Trampler in their own fulsome testimonials. It was an all-star evening.

Metamorphoses
Coliseum

John Percival

Geoffrey Cauley's *Metamorphoses*, given its first performance by Festival Ballet at the Coliseum on Monday, is the first new work commissioned by John Field since becoming director. He has turned to a choreographer who can be relied on to provide a striking stage picture (the designs are his own) and to make the dancers look good.

The setting, as sparse and geometrical as Cauley generally prefers, is a ballet rehearsal room. In it at curtain-rise Patricia Ruanne stands with her back to the audience, a towel over one shoulder. Her shaded, silvered tights cleverly make her look not naked but like a drawing of a nude. Her look of physical vulnerability is contrasted with the elegance of the other women who enter next, walking tall in floor-length skirts.

Patricia Ruanne

We are to imagine Ruanne, I suppose, tormenting herself because her body will not achieve impossibly high ideals. But Matz Skoog's arrival in a beam of light cheers her up for a while. Some other male dancers come in and play with a ball (I could not see the point of this); another woman, Caroline Humpston, appears to pose a threat to Ruanne's position.

The last third of the ballet is almost a straight repeat of the first third, but with the differences implied by the title; the most noticeable being that this time round she finds Skoog a disappointment and lets him go off again. I almost forgot to mention that a chunk of scenery, like a suspended box, twice descends to hide some of the cast and rises again after a while. It must mean something; but what?

Cauley seems to have invented ballet's equivalent of the old academic puzzle picture, without which no painting exhibition was once complete. It will serve as a talking point and, because he knows how much a dancer can imply by sheer personality and projection, he gets away with it.

What you must not expect is anything in the way of memorable movement, nor any closer connexion with Richard Strauss's music than in mood. I was glad that *Etudes*, a much more cheerful look at a dancer's life and work, was also on the bill, or we might all have come away wondering why they bother to keep trying.

eo Adam proves himself as a producer

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Magdalena Hajossyova, Eberhard Büchner

during the rococo period, "doppio le parole". "Prima le parole", counters his friend and collaborator the poet, "doppio la musica". Not very much else, when you get right down to it, happens. Making all that high-class chat interesting for two uninterrupted hours requires forces of substantially more than average talent.

All in all, this new production stands up to the challenge, and on the opening night the audience gave Theo Adam, one of its favourites anyway, an ovation which visibly warmed his heart. In addition to operatic and concert appearances, a succession of television programmes, in which he presents musical colleagues from all over the world as his guests and performing partners, has made Theo Adam something of an East German institution.

In *Capriccio* he has had luck in the selection of his artistic collaborators—at least in those involved on the opening night, for this production has dual casting in all important roles. Otmar Suitner conducted this first première, with Peter Schreier succeeding him for the second one. Mr Suitner shines in this sort of musical romanticism, with a fine sense of how far one may go in revelling in such lushness without wallowing. Under his leadership, the Berlin State Orchestra in the pit sounded unusually transparent and rich.

The vocal beauty provided by the leading singers made the opening performance an occasion on which simply to sit back, relax and enjoy. Top honours must go to Siegfried Vogel, who as the narcissistic theatre director La Roche brought down the house when, improvising his own obituary, he reticently called himself "unforgettable, immortal," and concluded, "The gods loved him, the people admired him."

Magdalena Hajossyova, the Slovakian soprano who sang the Countess, seemed tense at the beginning, and that made her voice unpleasantly shrill for a while, but the more she relaxed the more she warmed up and by the time she came to that limpid, meltingly beautiful monologue which closes the opera, she provided rich and tasty icing for an altogether delicious cake.

Eberhard Büchner as the composer and Jürgen Hartfiel as the poet made all they could out of their rather monotonous, repetitive roles, with Mr Büchner handicapped by an unbecoming wig. One's heart went out to Steffi Scherzer, a lovely young ballerina, for a sharp corner ripped her skirt right at her entrance and she had to perform her entire number—very capably—with an eyesore length of tulle hanging down. Wilfried Werz has provided a set which seems far too vast for this work's quite modest overall proportions, but Erika Simmank-Heinze's costumes were a delight.

In his staging, Theo Adam has sometimes fallen back upon outdated, anti-realistic operatic clichés—the eight servants' movements, for instance, or the Countess's exit, when she leaves the room for a solitary supper in another as if hordes of admirers await to cheer the virtuosity she demonstrates with her feathered fan—but in general he can claim this production as a substantial success.

BSO/Dutoit
Festival Hall

Max Harrison

Oberon's magic horn sounded quite enchantingly in Weber's overture on Monday night. This nearly immaculate performance by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra under Charles Dutoit seemed an auspicious start to their concert, and well-balanced wind chords and live string phrases were only some of the pleasures.

Oddly enough, the orchestra appeared considerably less happy in Schumann's Piano Concerto. This is not the place to go into the question of Schumann's orchestration as against that of the three virtuosos of that art who occupied the rest of the programme, but the Bournemouth sound was here less consistent and integrated.

Mr Dutoit did some good things, however, such as his shaping of the cello melody in the slow movement, and there were some nicely-turned oboe and clarinet solo phrases. The pianist, Andreas Schiff, was fluent, sensitive, and in the finale energetic, but as yet he is apparently without any individual thoughts to offer on this familiar work.

The concert was divided into German and French halves, the latter consisting of two Ravel works flanking one by Debussy. First after the interval came Ravel's *Valses nobles et sentimentales*, and these received a performance which had something of the "electric shivers and feline suppleness" that Roland Manuel long since remarked in them. Often such music is played in a lush, even over-heated manner, but here it was not.

Debussy's music is, of course, more elusive than that of Ravel, and the *Prelude a l'apres midi d'un faune* was not quite as successful. Again there was some fine individual playing from the woodwind and the strings had an aptly sensuous sheen. Yet Mr Dutoit did not altogether conjure up the music's hazy warmth, and often it was too static. Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloë* Suite No 2, however, positively scintillated, and was immediately enjoyable.

Ubu
Jeanetta Cochrane

Irving Wardle

As the first word uttered on the Cochrane stage is "Blimey" rather than the expletive which is all most people remember of *Ubu*, it is clear that this Spike Milligan-Charlie Drake-Charles Marowitz product is going to have as much to do with Jarry as Milligan's *Oblomov* had to do with Goncharov.

However, there are overwhelming arguments in favour of bringing this old monster up to date: and I note that, besides the Cochrane show, a Midlands-based group called Raging Id are touring a sequel called *Ubu in Gloucestershire* featuring Amin and Bokassa among other strong Ubuesque candidates. In the Milligan version, Ubu starts off as a Dagenham shop steward to which Mr Drake adds a one-finger Hitler moustache after ascending the throne of Poland.

But there, sad to say, topical interest dries up. We get an opening scene in *Fred Ubu's* family's attic with a moronic daughter glued to the television display card, and then it is off to Milliganland. "Why can't you be King of Poland like other men" snaps Gladys Ubu, and Fred promptly makes off to the sixteenth-century by lift.

That gets his career off to one good line and one good stage effect; and there are others worth mentioning — such as a gallant toast taken with eye-droppers, the sight of Claire Davenport's heftily hoop-skirted Queen Gladys eavesdropping from behind a wizened tree which she carried on for the purpose, and one or two genuine deep-groan puns ("Where has this runner been?" "I'm not a runner been, I'm a messenger.").

But on the whole, the first production of the exiled Open Space Theatre amounts to a misalliance of talents. Jarry's play may need pointing up, but the way to do it is not to convert a recognizable French type like Captain Bordure into a new soldier of fortune called Captain Fumbling Grope who relates to nothing outside show business.

Mr Milligan has had his wicked way with the script, and his occasional flashes of inspired lunacy do not make up for the dead weight of deliberately dreadful gags and the lack of coherent narrative.

To work at all, the script needs the fizzing impetus of a Goon show, rather than the deliberate pace of Marowitz's production, where each isolated effect is admiringly held up for the laughs that come too seldom. Clumsily split between the full stage and the curtained forestage, the action is too often concentrated at the centre, leaving actors to make long exits during which they repeatedly drop out of character.

The pace of the show may owe something to Charlie Drake's own taste in comic timing: like that of an exhausted boxer who periodically pulls himself together to deliver a vicious swipe. On his first bowler-hatted appearance, dejectedly heaving himself up through a trapdoor and then stamping on the family cat, the effect is very funny. But after a few repetitions, you are left feeling that this apathetic, stone-faced clown is not the likeliest embodiment of voracious human greed.

The show is rich in farcical props, including mobile doors, a reversible tragic-comic mask, a court that rises in the air, and a bicycle throne. They are like a box of fireworks, burnt out after being used once; and spectators lacking other amusement will feel grateful to the three Central School designers, Jeeda Barford, Charlotte Humpston and Kim Kelly.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

SPORT

Football

City bring in Deyna but there is still no place for Robinson

Sheffield United's striker Steve Finnieston, signed from Chelsea for £90,000 in June, 1978, has been forced to retire from the game. Finnieston, aged 25, has been plagued with injuries since joining United and has not played in a league match this season. United's manager, Harry Haslam, said: "It's a terrible blow to the lad and the club. It has taken a long time to sort out but Steve has realized that it is the end of the road."

Kazlu Deyna, is recalled to the troubled Manchester City team for tonight's vital home game with Everton, who are also struggling. Deyna takes over from Palmer, who has a leg injury and that is the only change from the team that dropped a point to Bolton Wanderers on Saturday.

City have now gone 15 games without a win and their manager, Malcolm Allison, said: "We have both got 28 points from the same number of games so this match is doubly important for both teams. We squandered a 3—0 lead on Saturday through lack of composure. If we had kept possession and slowed it down I don't think we would have had any problems." There is still no place in the line up for the £750,000 striker Robinson, although he came on as a substitute against Arsenal a fortnight ago. Everton recall Kidd, their leading scorer. He has recovered from a knee injury and suspension.

Macari could end a run of 39 consecutive games for Manchester United at Nottingham Forest tonight. Macari sustained a damaged toe in United's win at Crystal Palace on Saturday but he travelled with the team yesterday. United's manager, Dave Sexton, is hoping to choose an unchanged side for the third successive game but he will make no final decision until today.

Cherry, the Leeds United and England player, makes his 300th League appearance for the club against Middlesbrough at Elland Road.

Cherry has recovered from an ankle knock he picked up in the defeat at West Bromwich on Saturday.

The Leeds manager, Jimmy Adamson, whose team has won only one of their last 10 League matches, may recall Connor, the 17-year-old striker who was dropped on Saturday after a run of 20 games in which he scored six goals.

Half of Norwich's first team players go on trial tonight, with their future at Carrow Road at stake.

The manager, John Bond, has reacted sharply to a run of 12 games without a win that has ruled out any chance of European football next season.

Mr Bond said: "I might let five or six go, but if they are prepared to show what they can do between now and the end of the season, then I may change my mind". Norwich could find their attack weakened by the absence of Fashanu. He has a thigh injury

Ipswich Town make two changes for tonight's match at Tottenham. Their Dutch international midfield player, Thijssen, returns after missing the 1—1 draw with Derby County because of a stomach upset. Beattie is ruled out with a knee strain and Hunter takes his place.

Chelsea will again be without their recent £60,000 signing Viljoen for the second division promotion battle against Queen's Park Rangers at Stamford Bridge. Viljoen was signed shortly before the transfer deadline to add experience to the young Chelsea side, but a rib injury received in training last week has not healed.

Worthington, a former England striker, could be ruled out of Birmingham City's two second division promotion games over Easter. A disciplinary commission in London will today consider suspending Worthington for reaching 30 points this season.

Comeback plans for Bell

Colin Bell, the former Manchester City and England international, is planning a comeback with the North American side, San Jose Earthquakes. Bell retired from the game last season after a serious knee injury and he did not play in his own testimonial match. However, he is considering the offer from the Earthquakes manager, the former Manchester United full back, Bill Foulkes.

There should be no problems about the move if Bell decides to go. His football league registration was cancelled last season and he is a free agent.

Bell collected compensation for his injury but City's secretary, Bernard Halford, said: "If he does go it should not affect the compensation."

Harvey in charge at Carlisle

Martin Harvey, Northern Ireland's assistant manager, was installed yesterday as the new manager of Carlisle United. Mr Harvey, aged 38, has been caretaker-manager, since Bobby Moncur left to take over at Heart of Midlothian, two months ago. He has steered the third division club to an unbeaten run of eight games, and despite ruling himself out of the running for the manager's chair two months ago, he said yesterday that he was delighted to be offered the post.

But the move leaves a question mark over Mr Harvey's future as assistant to the Northern Ireland team manager Billy Bingham. Mr Harvey will have talks with Mr Bingham over the next few days to decide whether he can combine the two jobs.

Today's fixtures

FIRST DIVISION: Leeds United v Middlesbrough; Manchester City v Everton; Norwich City v Arsenal; Nottingham Forest v Manchester United; Tottenham Hotspur v Ipswich Town.

SECOND DIVISION: Chelsea v Queens Park Rangers (7.45); Newcastle v Notts County.

THIRD DIVISION: Colchester United v Exeter City.

FOURTH DIVISION: Hereford United v Lincoln City; Torquay United v Stockport County.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Celtic v Rangers; Dundee v St Mirren; Hibernian v Dundee United; Partick Thistle v Morton.

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Clydebank v Dumbarton; St Johnstone v Clyde; Stirling Albion v Raith Rovers.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Brechin v Stranraer; E. Stirlingshire v Meadowbank.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Barton United v Maidstone.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second division: Feltham v Lewes; Molesey v Billericay Town.

RUGBY UNION: Coventry v Nuneaton (7.15); Cross Keys v Swansea (7.0); Ebbw Vale v Captain Crawshay's XV (7.0); Exeter v Bristol; Gala v Selkirk; Saracens v London Scottish (6.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Workington Town v Leeds (6.0).

Drugs could be in for a big push from the prop and lock forwards

Dr 'JPR' puts rugby on the danger list

By Richard Streeton

That drug testing might become necessary in rugby was conceded by J. P. R. Williams, a former Welsh international full back and doctor, when he spoke at a recent conference in London on medicine and sport. A questioner had pointed out that anabolic steroids, which developed size, weight and strength, would be ideal for prop and lock forwards.

Had Williams, he asked, come across drug-taking during his rugby career? "Not in this country or the other main rugby-playing places I have toured," Williams said. "But it would certainly become a factor now that so many other countries, like those in Eastern Europe or Russia, are taking up the game. The stage could be reached when it could become necessary to test rugby players for dope."

These remarks were taken up by Ron Pickering, a former British national athletics coach. "If J.P.R. thinks there is no drug-taking in rugby, I only hope he is not going to be as disillusioned one day as those people who think that there is no drug-taking in soccer."

In an impassioned attack on drug-taking in sport, Mr Pickering said the problem was much more serious than most people believed or wanted to believe. "Most of us hold the view that sport should be a sanctuary from the other problems in this world. As it is, sport is itself on a downhill path in many areas at a terrifying pace; it is a downhill path from which there is no return unless we, the present generation, do something about it."

Mr Pickering attacked the use of "uppers and downers" in American sport—"a dreadful and endless see-saw"—and cited gymnastics, once the most aesthetic sport for women, but whose participants were now "stunted dwarfs". These undeveloped anorexic "girls" were taking enormous risks with their own bodies. Athletics had recently put sport into a crucible with its appalling decision to reinstate five Eastern European women who had been banned for life for taking anabolic steroids.

The problem, he said, was complicated because we lived in a drug-orientated society with certain things having become acceptable. He instanced neurectomy and said that, without this treatment of the animals' nerve-ends, neither show jumping nor horse racing could survive one week.

"The legislators, coaches, teachers, athletes, managers, trainers, media, physicians and pharmacists—all of us must get round the table in honest endeavour and give a lead. We owe it to sport for, at its best, it still offers man the greatest happiness, on the most convenient terms, available anywhere.

"As it is, the vast majority of us gobble an Aspirin here, gulp an antibiotic there, whiff a decongestant now or a few grammes of nicotine then; we take a little opiate in our cough syrup, a jab of Novacain from the dentist, caffeine to start the day, alcohol to mellow it and a sedative to blank it out at bedtime. The trouble is we expect athletes to be different from us. We must condemn and carry out tests and persuade every other nation to do so even though we shall be judged in terms of our civilization and its own standards of ethics."

Mr Pickering said young athletes found the anomalies that arose hard to understand. There had been more than a hundred deaths in the name of sport in the Manx motor cycle races; cases of broken necks in rugby; in France, Maurice Herzog was a national hero when he cut off his own toes when suffering from frostbite while climbing a mountain.

Modern folk heroes were not C. B. Fry or the Corinthian Casuals but people like Keith Moon, Sid Vicious and Elvis Presley

Among other points to emerge from the conference, Williams and David Wilkie, Britain's Olympic swimming champion, agreed that all champions shared a belief in themselves. "American coaches tell you that winning is not everything, it is the only thing", Wilkie said. "They pile on the pressure and you are expected to win. You have to think positively. There is no way you are going to win if you do not think you are going to win. In that context I believe you really can teach people to win."

Williams said: "All champions know they are going to win. In contrast, their opponents only hope they are going to win. That extra something is not easy to define, though it is part of an individual's make-up and is sometimes called the killer's instinct". Williams also had views on coaching. "When England won the World Cup in 1966 it was a wonderful thing for England, but workrate and fitness, I gather, took the place of skill. In rugby today the emphasis is all on physical fitness with not enough time spent on teaching skills. It is up to individuals, surely, to get themselves fit; coaches should concentrate on implanting skills."

George Gandy, who has worked with Sebastian Coe at the students' athletics club at Loughborough University, outlined gymnasium, weightlifting and other training techniques that had built up Coe's body strength. Some four years ago, when he first met Coe, he had not been impressed by the runner's ability: his legs buckled under pressure and his trunk was too willowy. His performances had improved dramatically and his times could not have been lowered to the same extent by just running.

"If you want to compete in formula one", Mr Gandy said, "you first of all build a formula one car and tune it up. That is the coach's job. You don't take a mini and try to tune it. I think that 20 years ago hard work and character were perhaps enough to break records. I don't think it is enough today.

Rugby Union

Stand-in school ste[illegible] limelight at Presto[illegible]

By Tom Cooban

Cardinal Allen, from Liverpool, crowned three days of exhilarating rugby by winning the all England schools 15-a-side festival, sponsored by Wilkinson Sword, on the Preston Grasshoppers ground yesterday.

Against Bradford Grammar School in the final they scored the only try, in extra time. Hartley, at centre, dived over the line on to a ball which had been kicked ahead after a pass was dropped in a breakaway.

For Bradford it was a disappointment and, they would claim, an injustice. They had more of the game and had earlier beaten Cardinal Allen, 12—3, in one of the group matches.

Though the final was the 93rd game of the tournament, both teams still played textbook rugby at top speed. Once the straining backs had possession, the ball was whipped from wing to wing and only instant tackling checked proceedings.

If fault could be found it was with the goalkicking. Had it been better several games would have ended differently. A penalty kick by Wheelhouse could have won the final for Bradford had it found its mark instead of the post.

Cardinal Allen proved the tournament dark horses. Their entry was notified last Friday, when they agreed to take the place of Llandovery[illegible] only one of the [illegible] to withdraw.

In the semi-final [illegible] ford beat the powerfu[illegible] joint winners of the [illegible] last year and the o[illegible] win all qualifying ga[illegible] day and Monday. [illegible] perately close. De La [illegible] promisingly with a pe[illegible] Andrews and were [illegible] the end, but in b[illegible] allowed Cash, on Bra[illegible] wing, to score a try [illegible] only one De La Sa[illegible] In the tournamen[illegible] kicked their penalty [illegible]

In the other semi-fi[illegible] Cardinal Allen a hard[illegible] expected by scoring [illegible] death penalty after [illegible] the last four on [illegible] against Woolverston[illegible] earlier rounds P. Ge[illegible] of Sale's 39 points [illegible] injured against W[illegible] Cardinal Allen's [illegible] Wright, scored a tr[illegible] kicked a penalty goal [illegible]

CARDINAL ALLEN: Wright; A. Hartley, M[illegible] Ioman; P. Riley, S. Gr[illegible] bert, N. Shaw, M. Dr[illegible] relly, K. Appleton, J. Ha[illegible] M. Wade (capt).

BRADFORD GS: A. W[illegible] Cash, P. O'Brien (capt); [illegible] A. Kelly; A. Parkin [illegible] Robinson, J. Webster, [illegible] Wilkinson, J. Down, [illegible] McQuade, R. Adams.

RESULTS: Quarter final: [illegible] ford GS 15, Sevenoaks [illegible] 10, Lancaster RGS 0; S[illegible] J. Woolverston Hall 0; [illegible] S. Christ's College Bre[illegible] final: Bradford 3 de La [illegible] nal: Allen 4, Sale 3; [illegible] Allen 3, Bradford GS 0.

Rugby League

Woods hopes for clem[illegible] to play in sell-out final

By Keith Macklin

The amazing enthusiasm for the Hull v Hull Kingston Rovers Challenge Cup final at Wembley has, if anything, been underestimated. It was well known that the population would rush for the remaining allocation of tickets as soon as Hull qualified to meet their neighbours, but the speed of the rush has taken even hardened Rugby League officials by surprise.

A spokesman at the league headquarters in Leeds said yesterday: "It looks likely that the whole of the remaining allocation will have been snapped up by Good Friday. This means a sell-out attendance of more than 95,000 at Wembley on May 3."

Despite the apparently parochial nature of the contest, the match is arousing great interest throughout all Rugby League areas. So great is the rivalry between the sides that reverberations from it have been felt from Wakefield to Wigan.

One man whose attendance at the final is no longer in his own hands is Paul Woods, a Hull back who received a severe suspension of nine matches last week and who will miss his Wembley date with Hull unless an [illegible] mittee reduces his sa[illegible] Woods has an unea[illegible] to play at the appeal. [illegible] the 21-year-old [illegible] Rovers player who [illegible] by Woods's high ta[illegible] England v Wales game [illegible] a personal letter to th[illegible] supporting Woods's [illegible] reduction in sentence.

It is a nice gestur[illegible] the pleasantest young [illegible] game. Evans told me [illegible] think Paul meant to [illegible] dangerously. I cann[illegible] anything of the inci[illegible] was concussed, but [illegible] people tell me, I side[illegible] and he threw out h[illegible] reflex action. As a pl[illegible] what Wembley mean[illegible] thrill of a lifetime, [illegible] hate Paul to miss ou[illegible] something which h[illegible] me".

A splendid gesture [illegible] but whether the coma[illegible] impressed is another [illegible] Woods had previously [illegible] yellow card for a foul [illegible] land full back. Fairbr[illegible] will be one of the [illegible] racking days of Pa[illegible] career.

Swimming

Russians will be represented at Leeds meetng

Moscow, April 1.—The Soviet Union will send a team to the international swimming match in Leeds, later this month. The Russian party has not yet been chosen, but "we will definitely be going", a spokesman said.

Teams from Britain, The Netherlands, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Czechoslovakia and West Germany are due to take part in the Leeds international from April 11 to 13.

British officials in London said there would be no ban on visas for Russian swimmers coming to Britain. The British Government has called for a boycott of the Moscow Olympics because of the propaganda value they offer to the Soviet Union while it maintains its armed intervention in Afghanistan. But Russian attendance at sports meetings in Britain is not regarded as falling into such a category, the sources said.—Reuter.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 7, Detroit Red Wings 5.

Olympic Games

Officials say sites will be ready in plenty of time

Moscow, April 1.—The biggest new areas for the Olympic Games look like untidy construction sites now, but Soviet officials say they will be ready well before the start of competition in July. Everyone in the Moscow Games organising committee (OCOG) has a countdown calendar on his desk and is well aware that today there are only 108 days until the opening ceremony on July 19.

Political battles rage in other capitals over which countries will join the United States in boycotting the Olympics in protest at the Soviet government's armed intervention in Afghanistan. While Soviet government officials and the press defend against the American and British charge that attendance at the Games would give the Russians a propaganda victory and indicate approval of Soviet foreign policy, the technicians and builders are getting on with the job of preparing impressive facilities for Games athletes.

Spring is late in arriving in Moscow, and there is still a light covering of snow and ice on the ground, slowing work on the huge complex in the central part of the city—the only big site not yet completed. The main Lenin Stadium, where athletics and the football final will take place, was built in the 1950s and renovated before last summer's Spartakiad, the Soviet national games, leaving the organisers with funds to concentrate on secondary facilities.

The huge development on Mir Prospect (Peace Boulevard), includes a magnificent swimming and diving area and the vast Olympic covered stadium, with a floor space the size of a football pitch. This is being divided in two by a sliding wall to provide separate halls for basketball and boxing.

Even today, with mud and rubble surrounding the area, unfinished approach roads and construction equipment, and swarms of workers, the project generates excitement in sports-minded visitors. The Moscow press this year show no echo of the near-panic which prevailed in Montreal four years ago when officials were worried whether the main stadium would be finished by the opening day.

"We have been up to 30 days behind schedule on the Mir Prospect site, but I can assure you the buildings will be completed and grass will be growing there on May 15," Ignatiy Novikov, the head of the Soviet organizing committee, a Soviet deputy prime minister, told members of the International Olympic Committee press commission at the weekend.

There are 8,000 workers on the site, he said, and with all important construction completed, there are only finishing touches, technical equipment and landscaping to be done. The indoor arena can be converted to a 40,000-seat covered football stadium, allowing that popular sport to be played in Moscow's arctic winter, which has been the off-season for the game.

Now it stands open, without the dividing wall, but with moveable banks of seats being completed on the floor. The basketball half of the hall will seat 16,000 spectators, with 18,000 more places for simultaneous boxing competition. With ready access to a Moscow Metro (underground railway) station, it can handle huge crowds there and at the nearby swimming complex.

The swimming pool looks even further from completion, but Alexander Sedov, deputy director of the press services department, told the visiting reporters that laying of tiles would be finished this week and the first water would be pumped into the two pools by mid-April. A plate glass wall divides the 10,800-seat swimming pool from the diving pool, where 5,700 people can watch.

Robert Helmick, the American lawyer who is general secretary of the International Amateur Swimming Federation (Fina), has been in Moscow recently, according to the Soviet news agency Tass, and can offer technical advice on the conditions which the pool must meet. After being tested with water, its filtration system must be approved and then the precision electric starting, timing and results system must be proved.

Another of the very impressive new sites, closer to completion, is the indoor velodrome. The steeply banked cycle track is 333.3 metres long, and there are seats for 6,000 under the artistic curved roofs.

Cricket

Centenary Test goes to Bird

H. D. ("Dickie") Bird has been appointed to take charge of the Centenary Test between England and Australia at Lord's in August. The fixture will mark 100 years of Test cricket between living Test players have been invited.

Bird said at his Barnsley home yesterday: "It is unbelievable. It is the crowning appointment of my career and has put the icing on the cake. I have had two World Cup finals and 46 internationals since my first appointment in 1973.

Bird's partner in the Centenary Test will be another experienced official, David Constant, a former Kent and Leicestershire player, in his 12th season as a first-class umpire.

Motor racing

Regazzoni's accident will be investigated

Long Beach, California, April 1.—A hospital spokeswoman says there is a possibility of the Formula One driver Clay Regazzoni of Switzerland being permanently paralysed by the injury he suffered at 160 mph on Sunday in the Long Beach Grand Prix.

The accident, and others in Grand Prix racing this month, have set in motion a safety investigation by the Federation International du Sport Automobile (FISA), officials at FISA headquarters in Paris have confirmed.

It is reported that the investigation will stress protection of the driver in the cockpit, and look into whether builders have discarded safety in the name of reducing car weight.

During the race won by the Brazilian, Nelson Piquet, it took 20 minutes to free the 40-year-old Regazzoni after the crash of his Ensign car. His crew said his brakes failed as he approached a hairpin turn, and he underwent five hours of spinal surgery in hospital.

A hospital spokeswoman, Cheryl Deyo, said that there was no movement of his legs when he was brought to the hospital and no change in that condition when he left the operating room.

"We may know in two days, or it could take several months before we can tell the extent of damage," she said. "There is a possibility of permanent paralysis but it is still to early to say."

Doctors immediately began tests to check any reaction in the lower part of Regazzoni's back, and further tests have been planned.

Regazzoni, winner of the Long Beach race in 1976, was reported in good and stable condition. In surgery, doctors realigned and stabilized his spine to take pressure off the nerves. He also suffered cuts to his forehead and a compound fracture of his right leg.

Jody Scheckter of South Africa, the 1979 driving champion and president of the Grand Prix Drivers' Association who finished fifth in the race, had said before the event: that, "the constructors are sacrificing safety for speed, particularly in the cockpit area". He added, "there is not enough material around the driver to protect him at impact. Either the cars must be slowed down or the cars must be built safer, or both."—AP.

Rowing

Crews' problem is infectious

By Jim Railton

It was Oxford's turn for back problems yesterday. The Oxford Blue and No 6 Chris Mahoney was rested for the afternoon's outing and his place taken by Richard Emerton, sixth man of the Isis crew.

Emerton fitted in well but he is some 22lb lighter, according to the official weights recorded last week than Mahoney, a key man in this year's Oxford line-up. Last Friday for one outing Cambridge's James Laurie was rested. Last year it was gastric infection just before the Boat Race. This year it is backs.

The Oxford president Rankov appears confident that Mahoney will be over his problems by today, when no matter what, Oxford plan to race the British lightweights, the country's fastest club crew, who last week beat Cambridge by almost a length. The lightweight eight's coxswain, Simon "Kamikaze" Jeffries, is under the impression, too, that today's race will be from Hammersmith Bridge to Putney Bridge—the exact distance raced against Cambridge last week. Oxford's contest today together with Cambridge's battle against London University will surely be the last real action before Saturday's Boat Race (4.45) with the pendulum at present delicately poised.

Yesterday was the lull before the storm and everybody seemed in benevolent mood. The Cambridge launch broke an engine shaft and rudder on some immersed object. That led to the rare sight of mixed Blues of Cambridge supporters including this year's umpire Alan Burrough riding on board Oxford's Bosphorus complete with dark blue flag.

Cambridge coach Graeme Hall came on board the press launch to carry out simulated stake boat starts. Last week he grew in stature, saving the press launch and its occupants who were perilously adrift.

My impression yesterday observing both crews starting was that Oxford depart cleaner and smoother while Cambridge appear to generate more power but with a resultant splash. They appear to have relative speed off the mark which is hopefully the case if this year's Boat Race is not to be decided in the first minute. Cambridge's best start of the morning was an evenly paced 10-20-40 in a minute which took them out some distance.

In the process of sharpening up both crews put the emphasis on starts. Oxford lined up alongside Isis for five short bursts, making distance each time, bu[illegible] stroke Diserens more demanded an improve[illegible] nique from his crew.

In the afternoon [illegible] opened and Mahoney, [illegible] saved from a soaking, [illegible] near the top of the [illegible] from below Harrods to [illegible] sity Stone. Goldie pic[illegible] en route and paced [illegible] Too well, in fact, b[illegible] arrived first but consi[illegible] bridge's overall output [illegible] you could not even be [illegible] draw the wrong concl[illegible]

Today's outings: Ox[illegible] and 2.30 pm (this ourn[illegible] be much later); Camb[illegible] and 3 pm from Putne[illegible]

OXFORD: S. R. W[illegible] Paul's and Corpus Christi); [illegible] Conington (Hampton and [illegible] Andrews (Abingdon and [illegible] J. L. Bland (King Edward [illegible] and Merton); *N. B. Ran[illegible] CS and Corpus Christ[illegible] Mahaney (Hampton [illegible] T. C. M. Barry (Radley [illegible] *M. J. Diserens (We[illegible] Keble), stroke, J. Me[illegible] ward's and St Edmund H[illegible]

CAMBRIDGE: L. W[illegible] (Shrewsbury and Caius), [illegible] Potter (Kingston and L[illegible] Whitney (Dartmouth US), [illegible] J. H. C. Laurie (Eton [illegible] *A. D. Phillips (City of [illegible] Jesus), J. W. Woodhouse [illegible] and Selwyn), *J. S. Palm[illegible] Pembroke); A. D. Dalrym[illegible] Downing), stroke, G. J. [illegible] (Brasenose and Jesus), c[illegible] *A Blue.

Tennis

Borg shows no sign of lack of tournament play

Monte Carlo, April 1.—Bjorn Borg, of Sweden, made few errors in defeating Peter McNamara, of Australia, 6—2, 6—2, today in the first round in the $187,000 Monte Carlo open.

Borg, the defending champion and first seed, warmed up for this event by winnin gin Nice last week. He had clearly not suffered from a lack of tournament play earlier this year, having beaten McNamara in Nice as well, and allowed him onl yone more game today.

In his victory in 81 minutes Borg lost his service onl yonce, when he led 4—1 in the second set. He then took the next two games for victory and a second-round match against Ivan Lendl, a 20-year-old Czechoslovakian.

John McEnroe, of the United States, seeded second, was not put to the test in the singles because he asked for an extra day off to rest an ankle injured in the final at Milan on Sunday.

McEnroe came through satisfactorily in a first round doubles match. He and Vitas Gerulaitis, of the United States, beat Eric Deblicker an dPatrick Proisy, of France, 6—3, 6—4. McEnroe is due to play his opening singles against Kim Warwick, of Australia, tomorrow.

FIRST ROUND: J. Clerc (Argentina) beat E. Deblicker (France), 7—5, 6—2; W. Scanlon (US) beat C. Delaney (US), 6—3, 1—6, 6—2; V. Gerulaitis (US) beat S. Birnir (Czechoslovakia), 6—3, 6—2; H. Gildemeister (Chile) beat G. Ocleppo (Italy), 6—0, 6—2; I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat C. Kirmayr (Brazil), 6—3, 6—2, 3-6, 6—1; C. Guillotte (France) beat L. Sanders (Netherlands), 7—6, 6—3; V. Pinner (W Germany) beat J. Granles (Spain), 6—4, 7—5; B. Borg (Sweden) beat P. McNamara (Australia), 6—2, 6—2; G. Vilas (Argentina) beat A. Panatta (Italy), 6—3, 6—3.

NEW ORLEANS: Men's singles, first round: B. Trabolo (SA) beat J. Lloyd (GB), 7—5, 6—4.

Show jumping

Strong entry at Birmingham

By Pamela Macgregor Morris

Green hunter classes, run on American lines, have long been advocated by David Broome and will be seen for the first time in England when the Birmingham International show starts its five-day run tonight

Most of the leading show jumpers in the United States started their careers in these classes and Broome believes that horses appreciate considerably in value after contesting them, because they are judged not only on their jumping ability but also on the style in which they perform.

They are not ridden by the judges, who are in this case Warren Wofford—at present serving as a colonel in the United States army, but is home for the show—and Lady Mary Rose Williams, who has judged them in the United States.

Mr Wofford, who has lived in England since marrying Dawn Palethorpe in the 1950s, has drawn-up the rules on American lines and they have attracted entries from exhibitors such as Robert and Gillian Oliver, Colonel and Mrs Guy Wathen and Mrs William Henson.

Eddie Machen, Paul Schockemöhle, Gerd Wiltfang, the world champion, Johan Heins and Hugo Simon, the World Cup holder, will be contesting Sunday's World Cup qualifier and also the Grand Prix on Saturday, for which Everest Double Glazing have put up £9,000.

How a table tennis career stretching round the world ends in Europe

Putting on the style that gained friends

By Richard Streeton

For most people the coming Easter weekend helps to emphasize that Spring has been reached and that the winter way of life can be put aside. For Jill Hammersley, the most capped England representative in any sport, the European table tennis championships that start in Berne on Saturday mark the end of her representative career. After 425 international appearances, and 13 years at the top, she has had enough of the travelling and training involved by her status in the game.

The little 10-year-old girl, whose promise was first spotted in the Slough British Legion Club, has travelled a long way in every sense. She has also completed the journey without making an enemy on five continents. International matches in table tennis tend to proliferate with six or more contests possible in the team events at European and world championships, but Mrs Hammersley's consistent form and durability have still been remarkable. She leaves table tennis with an MBE and the respect and friendship of her rivals from Prague to Peking, Budapest to Pyongyang, Moscow to Tokyo.

As a player Mrs Hammersley, now aged 28, has been famous in an era of hard hitters for her flawless defensive technique. She has always possessed the killing smash when necessary but her strength has been an extraordinary ability to return her opponent's shots safely. At the same time she has avoided being monotonous to watch: there have been too many variations in her famous backhand chop for that. Few women in the history of table tennis have been able to disguise heavy spin so well, or, sometimes there is no spin at all. The outcome is the same for her opponents, a netted return or a shot that has carried off the table.

Jill Hammersley: Too many variations for monotony.

It has been a playing style that according to those who know her best, has reflected her own personality, which is basically placid and homely. It has always been Mrs Hammersley who has soothed the tense and worrying moments at airports and tournaments for youthful newcomers to the circuit. It is a confirmatory point in this context that she has done more than her fair share of sewing on buttons for male teammates; on more than one lengthy tour she has even cut their hair for them. There is a fiery side to her nature but it is primarily reserved for driving, something she concedes is sometimes done too fast and often with intolerance of others. In business she is shrewd and a hard worker; the sports shop and mail order business in Dorking she has with fellow internationals Desmond Douglas and Jimmy Walker has quickly established itself in a competitive trade.

Since Mrs Hammersley first played for England as Jill Shirley at 16, her own approach has hardly altered but she has seen many other developments in the game. It has become much faster with shorter rallies; changed hat surfaces have helped put a greater emphasis on spin and service has become more crucial.

Her own slim build and weight have remained the same throughout the years but the greater degree of fitness and dedication necessary has become too time consuming; the dedication and, perhaps, incentives have gone. So she has decided to retire before "I get on the downward slope." A realist Mrs Hammersley has always known that the world title was beyond her reach.

Her greatest triumph was to win the European singles in 1976 and she was runner-up two years ago. She would like to prove herself the best in the Western world in Switzerland next week though her preparations have been hampered by an unomely attack of "tennis elbow" in her right arm.

Mrs Hammersley will not be lost entirely to table tennis. She has already been appointed non-playing captain next winter of the English women's team. There is also an outside chance she might be tempted to enter for the English closed championships next season for old time sake. Her nearest rival in England, Carole Knight, beat her this year, thus depriving Mrs Hammersley of a record seventh success. Without detracting from Miss Knight's form, it was a traumatic time in Mrs Hammersley's life, her marriage having just broken down. In the modern manner she retains a good relationship with her husband, who is an accountant and still looks after her firm's business affairs. Meanwhile in the coming 10 days Switzerland will be the scene for the farewell performances of one of the finest ambassadors that English sport has ever had.

Rackets

Marlborough get through to schools final

By Roy McKelvie
Rackets Correspondent

Marlborough and Wellington will meet in the final round of the schools' racket championship at Queen's Club this morning. In two different semi-finals Naylor and Swallow, of Marlborough, beat Prenn and Dick, of Harrow, by 17—16, 14—16, 10—15, 15—10, 15—1, 8—15, 15—10 while the brothers James and Andrew Mallinson, of Wellington, beat their own second pair Lup and Alexander, by 16—13, 15—1, 16—15, 17—16.

Though they always looked slightly the better pair, Marlborough had a battle on their hands. Naylor was the most accomplished player of the four being consistently sound, though the hefty Prenn could our hit him and frequently did so when not suffering one of his erratic patches.

Swallows main contribution was his service and never more so than in the fourth game when Harrow were leading by two games to one and 10—9. Swallow served out the game for Marlborough and the outcome was that Harrow collapsed in the fifth game to give Marlborough the lead three games to two. Prenn's partner, Dick, had as much trouble in taking service as did Swallow, but he was difficult to beat when positioned up court.

The final game was tense and the players were affected by the moment though Naylor aopeared the calmest of the four. Swallow gave Marlborough a lead at the start of the game. Dick brought Harrow back to 10—10 and then Naylor, with a run of five unreturned services, finished it off.

The match between the two Wellington pairs was a rugged affair with a good deal of wild hitting. The losers had their chances as they led 11—2 in the first game, had one game point for the third and four for the fourth.

Golf

Belated suc[illegible] for Tewell on US circu[illegible]

Hilton Head Isla[illegible] Carolina, March 31—D[illegible] beat Jerry Pate at the [illegible] hole of a sudden-dea[illegible] here to win the 300,[illegible] heritage golf classic a[illegible] tournament victory in [illegible] on the United States to[illegible]

The two players shar[illegible] at the halfway stage [illegible] dropped a stroke be[illegible] going two over par a[illegible] hole of the third ro[illegible] finished on 280, four [illegible] for the Harbour Town [illegible] 30-year-old Tewell wen[illegible] par, 73, in the fourth ro[illegible] the 26-year-old Pate, [illegible] United States open char[illegible] a 72.

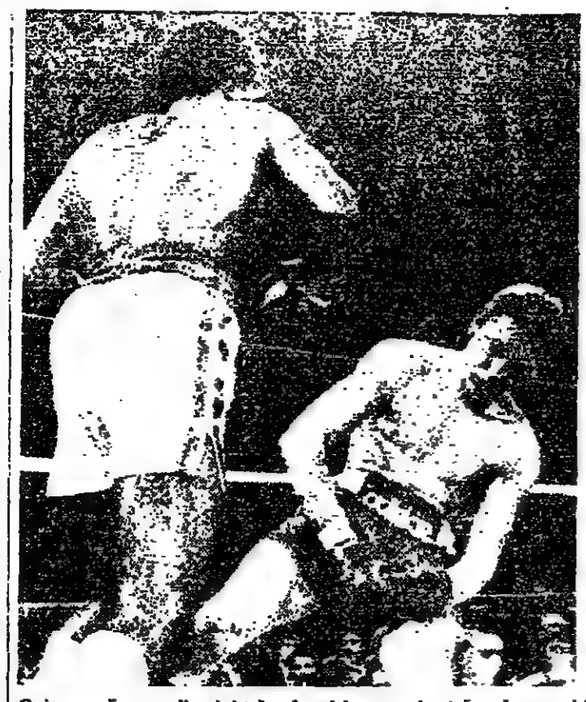
In the sudden-death, [illegible] his second shot, at th[illegible] 15th hole, into the w[illegible] Tewell laid up in two. [illegible] the back fringe and two-[illegible] par and the $4,000 d[illegible] prize.

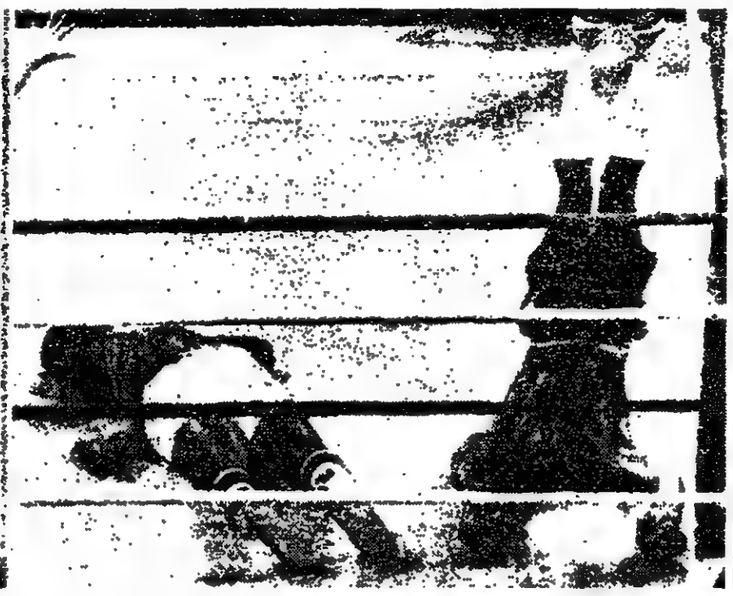
John Mahaffey, who [illegible] the lead with Tewell, h[illegible] finish third, two strok[illegible] with Ed Sneed, Lon [illegible] Gary Player.

Fuzzy Zoeller, George [illegible] Bob Murphy were the o[illegible] to break par on the test [illegible] that was fashioned out o[illegible] swamp and still has allu[illegible] deer as spectators.

They were on 283. [illegible] Masters champion [illegible] have a good chance [illegible] victory until he drove [illegible] off the 17th fairway [illegible] ing champion Tom Watso[illegible] with a 70 for 284.

Final scores: 280: D. Tew[illegible] 72, 73 (won play-off); J. P[illegible] 73, 72. 282: E. Sneed 70, [illegible] L. Hinkle 73, 69, 70, 70; [illegible] 68, 69, 70, 73; G. Player [illegible] 69, 72, 72. 283: G. Burns [illegible] 72; F. Zoeller 73, 68, 7[illegible] Murphy 72, 68, 70, 73. 28[illegible] 70, 70, 78, 69; T. Watson, [illegible] 70. 286: B. Lietzke 73, 7[illegible] L. Thompson 68, 69, 75, 7[illegible] Green 79, 71, 72, 71; [illegible] (Australia) 74, 69, 68, 7[illegible] Aoki (Japan) 72, 70, 73, 7[illegible] Marsh (Australia) 72, 71, 7[illegible] P. Oosterhuis (Britain) 71, [illegible] J. Newton (Australia) 74, [illegible] 295: A. Palmer 75, 69, 71, [illegible] D. Graham (Australia) 71, 7[illegible] —Agence France-Presse.





), the man-eater of ıryland, mauls Tiger of the Fens

umar Sen
orrespondent

Maryland, April 1

ruction of Dave Green, by Sugar Ray Leonard, States, in the world it championship at the ntre was swift and awe- t is only because it was occasion that I cannot . merciful. For that fall of the challenger rth round might have uences far beyond the wounding of pride, and will tell what damage by pitting a man of age but little boxing ist a champion endowed than 10 boxers' share lities.

ls a spectator said to jci" I have seen in sporting terms, only lkes of Pele, Cruyff, st. This was something magic rather, because f I was a party to a xecution. It was as as it was guilt-ridden, hen Green hit the n Leonard, who nerv- over to look at Green h twitched, struggling l afterwards: "I was

ied in 2min 27sec of exactly the same time vent down against the eight champion, Saad at Atlantic City). ring desperate to land punch, stepped out of he bright-eyed young ecided it was time to

orward, dipping to left so that either hand ith equal venom, he n with a left, and quickly with a right- at started a clangour head, and the Briton o his back at the same e ring where Carlos ad sent him toppling

ee started counting, was having difficulty , stopped counting at re the obstruction of ld and, as the boxer conscious, he declared winner by a technical

d chanted "KO!", s, and stopped only announced that it was ockout. The crowd of ifying to Leonard's ver, despite live tele- age to 45 million in States, were satisfied. th, Green's manager, at seemed rather taken aback at the quality of Leonard's boxing, said today that he and Green would have to think about the future. "It is far too soon to take any firm decision about David's future", Mr Smith said. "About 90 per cent of ring retirements prove to be temporary and that is not what we want to happen.

"We have go to make up our minds. Dave has got to have a rest and an ECG test. We will be talking to Dr Adrian Whiteson (the British Boxing Board's senior medical officer) and we'll see if there is any deterioration after this fight. The decision will be up to the board's doctor, myself and David."

In every round we saw a different Leonard: flashy, moody, thoughtful, destructive. *In the first round he was all bright-eyed and disdainful.* The Fen Tiger stalked him. Scoring with the left became a formality for Leonard as the East Anglian advanced. The champion's left seemed to be *strung out in one long blurring line*, like the dashes in the road that run into each other as a car speeds up. Green was baffled, but boxed with what ability he had, and was even ready to match the stares at the end of the round.

In the next round Green started to throw those ponderous swings. Leonard had no difficulty in parrying the blows or staying out of range by the breadth of a cat's whisker. Towards the end of the round Green's boldness grew as the champion deliberately backed against the ropes to lead the determined challenger on to his quick counters. When Leonard was almost on the ropes Green charged in to land one good punch that might finish off his man, but Leonard slipped out and left Green floundering on the ropes.

To many it might seem that Leonard's backing on to the ropes is like some defender in football dribbling up and down inside his *own penalty area. But once* Leonard has slipped out and put his opponent on the ropes, he whips in hurtful blows and then waltzes away to the other side of the ring.

The third was a teasing round. He held Green, leant on him, came in close, cuffed him, bobbed around in front of his nose and, for the first time in his career, I saw Green flinch, screwing up his eyes, if Leonard as much as stamped his feet. Thereafter I was prepared for the knockout. I had heard Leonard telling a friend when he was in his brother's corner earlier that he would end the bout in the fourth. All the same, the speed of those four knockout blows took the breath away.

Going . . . Leonard's right lands with a crash at Landover while Weaver's zips over for the knockout at Knoxville.

Gone . . . Leonard reaches starward as Green lies flat on his back while Weaver gets a kick out of Tate biting the canvas.

Weaver's quick action saves the day

Knoxville, Tennessee, April 1.—This contest was billed as "David versus Goliath" and, *as in biblical times*, David prevailed. It was also billed as a "tune-up" for John Tate towards a $14m contest against the former world heavyweight champion, Muhammad Ali, later this year. But Tate lost his World Boxing Association heavyweight boxing title here last night to Mike Weaver.

But David, in the form of the journeyman, Weaver, who had lost six of his first 12 professional bouts, cut down the gargantuan Tate. And Weaver did it in Tate's home town before a crowd of 12,789 during the first defence of the title he won by scoring a points decision against Gerrie Coetzee of South Africa in Pretoria last October 20.

In one of the biggest upsets in the heavyweight division, Weaver, weighing 14st 8lb, knocked out Tate standing 6ft 4in and weighing over 16st with only 45 seconds left in the *15th and final round* with a right uppercut to the body, followed by two crushing left hooks to the jaw and a solid right cross to the head.

It was the only way the 27-year-old Weaver could possibly win at that late stage in the contest. Having built up an early points lead by driving Weaver into the ropes with the sheer force of his weight advantage and more punishing blows, Tate was ahead on the scorecards of the referee and two judges going into the final round.

"I knew I was behind on points, so they (Weaver's handlers) told me I had to knock Tate out to win it", an elated Weaver told reporters after the bout.

Having hurt Tate in the twelfth round with a barrage of powerful left hooks and right uppercuts to the head and body that had the champion hanging on, the challenger from Los Angeles was convinced *he had the punching power* to accomplish the feat.

Springing from his corner as the final bell rang, Weaver caught Tate with a right-hand lead early in the round that snapped the champion's head back. Tate, obviously hurt by the blow, responded with a right cross that *grazed Weaver's jaw*.

It turned out to be his last punch as Weaver moved forward relentlessly, landing two left uppercuts and a sharp right to Tate's body that caused the champion to wince. Before Tate could retaliate, Weaver drove a crushing right hand to the body and two jolting left uppercuts to the head that sent Tate crashing to the canvas.

The count was a formality. Tate lay *unconscious* for five minutes. This was a remarkable comeback by Weaver, who considered retiring several years ago.

Tate can blame the former champion, Ken Norton, for the loss of his title. The man who dethroned Tate, was on the verge of retiring from the ring shortly after he turned professional in the early 1970s.

"I thought of quitting three or four times", Weaver said, "but each time my *friend*, Ken Norton, convinced me to stick it out."

Few people, if any, regarded Weaver as a potential champion at the outset of his career. "I felt I was going nowhere", said the soft-spoken Weaver. "But I was young and I didn't train properly. I was always cutting corners. When I should have been running eight or nine miles a day, I only ran three."

Don Manuel changed Weaver when he came along as his manager and brought in the veteran Ray Barnes as Weaver's trainer. Things then improved for the man who had been nicknamed "Hercules" because of his imposing physique.—Reuter.

Jewels stolen: John Tate discovered that jewels valued at $20,000 had been stolen from his house while he was losing his title.

Boxing

ROTTERDAM: Light-heavyweight: Rudy Koopmans (Netherlands) knocked out Tony Dowling (Canada), first round.

LAS VEGAS: Lightweight: Alexis Arguello (Nicaragua) beat Gerald Hayes (US), pts.

Holmes is far too powerful for his flabby challenger

Las Vegas, Nevada, April 1.—Larry Holmes still reigns as World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champion after completely out-classing ponderous challenger Leroy Jones.

The 18 stone 3 ounces Jones had size but little else to offer in an inept performance that ended with Holmes stopping him four seconds from the end of the eighth round at Caesars Palace.

Holmes, weighing a fraction over 15 stone, looked much sharper than in his three other title defences during the last year, *during a one-sided contest. Jones*, surprisingly fast of hand and foot for a man of his bulk, relied almost entirely on his left hand, but that proved generally ineffective against the powerful punching of Holmes.

Jones, who had rolls of fat overhanging his boxing trunks, was peppered with stinging left jabs and solid left-right combinations to head and body before a barrage of unanswered punches *from Holmes finally prompted* the referee to step in.

The contender, a 12-1 underdog, explained that he had suffered from influenza and bronchitis just before his arrival in Las Vegas. "Holmes is a dirty fighter. His best punch is his thumb," he added. Holmes countered, "With punches coming at him 100 miles an hour, how can he say I thumbed him?"

It was the sixth inside-the-distance title *defence* completed by Holmes in the 21 months since he outpointed Ken Norton to win the WBC title in June, 1978. The champion and promoter King indicated that Scott Ledoux would be his next opponent, possibly in *May or June*. Potential challengers, after that, include former champions Leon Spinks and Muhammad Ali, who had been contemplating a comeback against John Tate, dethroned as World Boxing Association champion last night by Mike Weaver in Knoxville, Tennessee.

In another championship contest on the same programme in Las Vegas, Marvin Camel of the United States rallied in the late *rounds to earn a unanimous* points decision over Mate Parlov of Yugoslavia in a bruising and bloody 15-round bout for the vacant newly created World Boxing Council cruiserweight championship.

Camel appeared off balance and awkward in the first five rounds but his superior foot speed began to turn the tide. The 28-year-old American Indian from Missoula, Montana, landed the most damaging *punch of the match*, a looping left hook on the jaw in the 13th round to open a deep cut over the Yugoslav's right eye.

Referee Ferdinando Hernandez halted the bout for the cut to be examined by Dr Donald Romeo, the ringside physician. The doctor let the contest continue although Parlov's vision was clearly hampered.

Camel landed another devastating blow, a right to the face in the 14th round but Parlov from Pula, Yugoslavia, survived the ensuing onslaught to stage his own rally in the last round. But it was too little and came too late although Camel received the worst cut of the bout, a deep gash at *the corner of his right eye. Blood* gushed over his face, but again Dr Romeo let the bout continue.

Judge Harold Buck of the United States scored the fight 144 points to 141 for Camel. Judges Jose Juan Guerra of Mexico and Angelo Poletti of Italy both had Camel the winner, 148—141 and 149—141, respectively.—Reuter.

ıson's short reign is d by Gregory

Tennessee, April 1.—ory battered Marvin o submission with a rring right-hands and ts last night, stopping he eleventh round to ld Boxing Association it-heavyweight cham-

e, Carlos Berrocal, of oped the contest after and 43 seconds of the Gregory, who is 27, d Johnson with a t hook to the body oss to the head. The Johnson reeling across d he appeared dazed go down.

impressive victory—th against only four ied Johnson's short-s champion, Johnson, *from Indianapolis, had* lle when he knocked Galindez, of Argentina, in the eleventh round last November and this was his first defence.

Gregory, an outstanding counter-puncher, constantly beat Johnson to the punch and he also mixed up his attacks well, catching the 25-year-old Johnson with a number of sharp uppercuts to the body going for the head with left hooks and *right crosses*. But his most effective punch was his righthand lead.

He took control of the fight from the start, as Johnson, seemingly determined to end the bout quickly, missed wildly with roundhouse lefts. Gregory put his opponent down in the third round. Johnson got up quickly but was forced to take a mandatory eight-count.

After losing the first three *rounds, Johnson changed his* tactics and began to crowd and maul Gregory. That tactic proved effective as he came back to win the next three rounds. But then, inexplicably, Johnson began to box again from the seventh round and Gregory got back on top with short counter-punches to finish the contest in the 11th.—Reuter.

Conteh decides that he will not be retiring yet

John Conteh flew home to London yesterday after his world *title defeat by Matthew Saad* Muhammad and categorically denied that he was giving up boxing. Arriving back at Heathrow with his wife Veronica and children James, 2, and Joanna, 18 months, a disappointed Conteh said, "I am certainly not giving up fighting, I am carrying on. I have a number of plans in the pipeline but I can't say what they are until the end of the week".

Still appearing stunned by his defeat, Conteh said, "I will not be taking a holiday—I have not worked hard enough for one". Speaking of the likely effect his defeat will have on his commercial contracts, Conteh said, "It's too early to say but that is the least of my worries at the moment".

Conteh hit out at the reports that he ran naked through his hotel after a post-fight party. "The *stories were totally untrue*. I did not know what was supposed to have happened until I read it in the newspapers. The reports just got out of hand."

Conteh's wife, Veronica, gave her full support for her husband's decision not to retire from the ring. As she stepped off their flight cradling little Joanna in her arms, Veronica said: "I have put no pressure on John to retire and I *would never dream of doing so*.

"He is a very disappointed man and I do not want him to retire now. At such a low point in his career, it would be very bad for him as a person and he is not finished yet. We have not discussed the future but whatever decision he makes he will have my total support as his wife."

Bowling sponsors

Lombard North Central, the banking and finance subsidiary of the National Westminster Bank, is to sponsor the English Women's Bowling Association's international competition and British Isles *championships taking place* at Whitnash, near Leamington Spa, from June 23 to 26.

Hope to start training again and may defend in June

Maurice Hope, Britain's world light-middleweight champion, has been given the all clear to resume sparring in two weeks and he could be defending his title by June. A serious eye complaint, which threatened Hope's career, prompted an operation in January, but he has made a remarkable recovery.

A laser beam wax was used to seal a hole in the retina and yesterday Moorfield's eye specialist, Dr McLeod, told Hope he could start sparring again. Dr McLeod will send a report to the British Boxing Board of Control and it will then be up to their chief medical officer, Adrian Whiteson, to decide when Hope can box again.

Hope, aged 28, from Hackney, whose last contest was a voluntary defence against an American, Mike Baker, will be eager to return to action. His manager, Terry Lawless, said: "Maurice is delighted. His eye has responded tremendously. He was always confident he would fight again. He has been keeping in shape by doing some light training. Obviously he is not at his peak, but once he starts sparring I think he could be ready for a fight in June, subject to the board's decision".

The next bout for Hope will almost certainly be a title defence against the World Boxing Council's number one challenger, *Carlos Herreira, of Argentina* and Mr Lawless wants the contest to be in London.

Leading goalscorers

FIRST DIVISION: D. Johnson (Liverpool) 23; G. Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur) 22; P. Boyer (Southampton) 21; F. Stapleton (Arsenal) 21; A. Sunderland (Arsenal) 20; A. Biley (Derby County) 18; K. Dalglish (Liverpool) 17; P. Mariner (Ipswich Town) 17.

SECOND DIVISION: C. Allen (QP Rangers) 25; D. Moss (Luton Town) 22; D. McNeil (Wrexham) 18; A. Shoulder (Newcastle United) 18; D. Cross (West Ham) 17; B. Robson (Sunderland) 17.

THIRD DIVISION: A. Mayes (Swindon Town) 30; A. Rowland (Swindon Town) 22; T. Austin (Mansfield) 21; T. Curran (Sheffield Wed) 22; J. Glavin (Barnsley) 19; J. Lyons (Millwall) 19; A. Crawford (Blackburn Rovers) 19.

FOURTH DIVISION: C. Garwood (Aldershot) 23; W. Kellock (Peterborough United) 22; D. Penn (Walsall) 22; I. Robins (Huddersfield Town).

programme

IN CHASE (Hunters: amateurs: £1,662: 3m)

Beano, B. Munro-Wilson, 8-12-1 .... B. Munro-Wilson
Remigo (CD), F. Winter, 12-12-1 .... A. J. Wilson
Tartan Prince, M. Scudamore, 9-12-1 ...... N. Twiston-Davies
Chapeau d'Or, A. Twine, 10-11-11 .... G. Maundrell
Cadwar (D), Mrs A. Downton, 9-11-11 .... J. De Lisle-Wells
Fair Rambler, T. Tate, 11-11-11 .... T. Tate
Linden Lad (D), Mrs D. Sloman, 12-11-11 .... Mrs M. Crouch
Andrew Patrick, J. Rogerson, 9-11-7 .... —
Dancing Brig, T. Clay, 9-11-7 .... T. Clay
Respectful, J. Buckingham-Burr, 10-11-7 .... M. Wheeler
Some Light, Miss L. Aitken, 8-11-7 .... T. Bunting
Tangled Knight, R. Voorspuy, 10-11-7 ...... T. M. Voorspuy
o, 100-30 *Fair Rambler*, 13-2 Tartan Prince, 10-1 Chapeau d'Or.

REL HURDLE (Handicap: £3,541: 2m)

Snowtown Boy, F. Winter, 6-11-6 .... J. Francome
Never Lit Up (D), F. Walwyn, 6-11-2 .... W. Smith
Saucy Dove (D), G. H. Price, 8-10-10 .... Cecil Price
Run Hard (D), R. Turnell, 6-10-7 .... S. C. Knight
Tompion (D), Mrs D. Oughton, 6-10-7 .... R. Rowe
Shell Burst (D), L. Kennard, 5-10-7 .... M. Williams
Hay Ride (D), W. Guest, 7-10-7 .... J. Barlow
Rushmere (CD), R. Atkins, 7-10-7 .... R. Atkins
Mynfadlak, E. Geary, 8-10-7 .... G. Old
own Boy, 3-1 Never Lit Up, 4-1 Run Hard, 8-1 Hay Ride, Tompion, urst, Rushmere, 16-1 others.

RINE CHASE (Handicap: £3,529: 2½m)

Tiepolino (CD), P. Cundell, 8-12-4 .... H. Davies
Nimrody (D), F. Winter, 9-11-11 .... B. De Haan
Snowshill Sailor (CD), R. Turnell, 8-11-8 .... A. Turnell
Professor Plum, T. Forster, 7-11-7 ...... T. Thomson Jones
Sweeping Along (D), J. Gifford, 7-11-5 .... R. Rowe
Gandy VI (D), J. Thorne, 11-11-1 .... R. Hoare
Might Be (D), J. Webber, 9-11-1 .... A. Webber
shill Sailor, 100-30 Nimrody, 6-1 Might Be, 11-2 Professor Plum, 8-1 Sweeping Along, 16-1 Gandy VI.

I INNS HURDLE (£5,678: 3m)

Derring Rose (D), A. Jarvis, 5-11-12 .... A. Turnell
Mountrivers (D), E. O'Grady (Ire), 6-11-12 .... M. F. Morris
King Neptune (D), R. Turnell, 10-11-5 .... S. C. Knight
Pardon (C), F. Winters, 6-11-5 .... J. Francome
Ross du Vin (CD), J. Gifford, 9-11-5 .... C. Kinane
Bright Performance, C. Crosthwaite, 9-11-0 .. C. Crosthwaite
Sounding Arch, D. Pearman, 7-11-0 .... D. Jackson
Straight Jocelyn, R. Armytage, 8-11-0 .... H. Davies
Toyco (D), E. Beeson, 5-11-0 .... *R. Goldstein*
ntrivers, 9-4 Derring Rose, 8-1 King Neptune, Pardon, 10-1 Ross du Jocelyn, 20-1 others.

EN EAGLE CHASE (Novices: £2,981: 2½m)

Another Charm, R. Blakeney, 7-11-3 .... M. Bastard
Attivo, P. Mitchell, 10-11-3 .... J. Francome
Better Than Ever, C. Popham, 8-11-3 .... C. Popham
Captain Parkhill, B. McLean, 7-11-3 .... *S. Charlton*
Cartrail, J. Old, 7-11-3 .... C. Candy
Fire Port, R. Pocock, 7-11-3 .... P. Richards
Fire Park, N. Henderson, 7-11-3 .... S. Smith Eccles
Foolsome, L. Bowman, 8-11-3 .... S. Adamson
Foxworthy, J. Gifford, 7-11-3 .... R. Rowe
Handsome Prince, P. Cundell, 8-11-3 .... H. Davies
Lucky Call, D. Nicholson, 6-11-3 .... J. Suthern
Nord, J. *Gifford*, 9-11-3 .... C. Kinane
O'er the Border, P. Calver, 6-11-3 .... *R. Linley*
Score, G. Blum, 7-11-3 .... J. Barlow
Silent Flier, C. Balding, 6-11-3 .... I. Gebbie
Waters Edge, T. Forster, 7-11-3 .... D. Jackson
Royal Down, R. Hartop, 5-10-13 .... A. Webber
Royal Potion, D. Pearman, 5-10-13 .... P. Barton
Park, 4-1 Score, 5-1 Handsome Prince, 13-2 Attivo, 8-1 O'er the Another Charm, 10-1 Captain Parkhill, 12-1 Foxworthy, Foolsome, *Lucky Call*, 16-1 others.

HARRIER HURDLE (Novices: £2,149: 2½m)

24 Spanish Sovereign, C. James, 7-11-13 .... G. McNally
21 Pillager, J. Gifford, 5-11-12 .... R. Rowe
01 Tumbler, A. Pitt, 5-11-12 .... I. Cox
24 Beechey Bank, R. Turnell, 6-11-8 .... A. Turnell
Debt Collector, F. Winter, 8-11-8 .... —
Extol, R. J. Smith, 8-11-8 .... P. Warner
Hally's Treasure, W. Marshall, 6-11-8 .... A. Coogan
Hickleton Brew, F. Winter, 6-11-8 .... J. Francome
02 Ivory Thrust (D), K. Bailey, 6-11-8 .... A. Webber
22 Law Venture, Mrs P. Sly, 6-11-8 .... J. Butchard
0p Master Socks, O. O'Neill, 6-11-8 .... J. Suthern
Migrateur, W. Marshall, 6-11-8 .... A. Turnell
00 Road Runner, N. Mitchell, 6-11-8 .... Mrs E. Mitchell
0p Sea Otter, R. Dening, 6-11-8 .... M. O'Halloran
Braid, Mrs B. Waring, 5-11-7 .... —
0b Brave Spirit, R. Armytage, 5-11-7 .... *H. Davies*
0 Chesil Beach, J. Old, 5-11-7 .... C. Candy
02 Farmer, R. Hawker, 5-11-7 .... E. Waite
00 Flyweight, M. Madgwick, 5-11-7 .... A. Madgwick
0 Hallowkiln, Lady Herries, 5-11-7 .... P. Haynes
41 Loophole, F. Walwyn, 5-11-7 .... W. Smith
12 Robbie Lad, D. H. Jones, 5-11-7 .... P. Barry
01 Silver Tycoon, N. Gaselee, 5-11-7 .... R. Davies
0 St George's Day, M. McLean, 5-11-7 .... S. Charlton
44 Michelham Lad, D. Weeden, 4-11-0 .... —
bler, 100-30 Tumbler, 5-1 Pillager, 13-2 Loophole, 8-1 Hickleton Debt Collector, 10-1 Michelham Lad, 12-1 Spanish Sovereign, 14-1 s, 20-1 others.

Same-again double for O'Grady

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The Berni Inns Long Distance Hurdle is the mainstay of the programme at Ascot this afternoon. Two years ago, the Irish trainer, Edward O'Grady, won both *this valuable prize* and the Waterford Crystal *Stayers* Hurdle at Cheltenham with the same horse Flame Gun and today he is seeking the same double with Mountrivers. At Cheltenham, Mountrivers galloped on much too strongly *for a field that included* Derring Rose, and there is no reason to suppose that he will not do precisely the same again this afternoon.

Derring Rose has won at Liverpool in the meantime, but even that *praiseworthy performance* should not be allowed to obscure the fact that he finished nine lengths behind Mountrivers at Cheltenham. Furthermore, he will be meeting him on worse terms today. Ross du Vin was another of those who was put firmly *in* their place by Mountrivers at Cheltenham after winning his three previous races.

King Neptune finished third in this race 12 months ago, and the same place *is* probably the best that his connexions can hope for now. An interesting runner is Straight Jocelyn, who has always struck me as the ideal type to excel at steeplechasing. However, that illusion was rudely shattered in the autumn *when Straight* Jocelyn fell in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury in November, and again bit the *dust* in his next race at Cheltenham the following month. Straight Jocelyn has not run since then and doubtless Roddy Armytage, his trainer, is looking to today's race to restore his confidence.

A year ago Remigio won the Merlin Hunters Steeplechase and he looks like doing so again. After Remigio had been beaten by his stable companion, Rolls Rambler, in the Foxhunters Steeplechase at Cheltenham, their trainer, Fred Winter, admitted that he had fancied Remigio more. Winter added that with hindsight he felt that Remigio was far happier racing right-handed and anyone who saw him win at either Kempton *Park or Leicester* would *probably* be quick to agree. Going right-handed around those two courses Remigio was always jumping like a dream, whereas at Cheltenham he never inspired confidence.

However, he was beaten only *three lengths by Rolls Rambler*, and even that defeat cannot be held against him, bearing in mind that Rolls Rambler went on to complete the great hunters double by winning at Liverpool as well.

If Remigio does regain the winning trail he could easily be the first of two to score for his stable. His travelling companion, Snowtown Boy, is my idea of the likely winner of the Kestrel Handicap Hurdle, which has a limited weight *range. If this were a long handi*cap, Run Hard Tompion, Shell Burst, Hay Ride, Rushmere, and *Mynfadlak would all be receiving* much more weight from Snowtown Boy than they will today. In the *circumstances, Never Lit Up* looks the one that Snowtown Boy has to fear the most, but he finished well behind my selection in the Schweppes Gold Trophy.

Tumbler, the horse who beat Snowtown Boy at Lingfield Park last month must be hard to beat in the Hen Harrier Novices Hurdle, but even his task is not a simple one. His opposition includes Farmer, who ran the race of his life at Cheltenham, where he was runner-up to the Irish hot pot Drumlargan in the Sun Alliance Novices Hurdle. However, at Stratford in February, Tumbler gave Farmer 3lb and beat him by a length and a half, and what he has accomplished once he ought to be capable of repeating.

Finally, on the flat racing front, it seems that the wires were buzzing between Ireland and London yesterday, because *Hills* reported a mass of inspired money for Monteverdi to win both the 2,000 Guineas and the Derby. As a result, they have clipped the Free Handicap leader's price to 7 to 2 from 5 to 1 for the 2,000, and cut his price for the Derby to 5 to 1 from 8-1.

STATE OF GOING (official): Ascot: Soft (possible inspection if more overnight rain). Kelso: Heavy. Worcester: Abandoned, waterlogged. Tomorrow: Southwell: Heavy. Worcester: Heavy (inspection 3.0 pm today).

Ban on jockeys 'severe', Irish authorities say

The three-month riding bans and disqualifications placed on Tommy Ryan and Joe Byrne by the Jockey Club have come under fire from the Irish racing authorities.

Ryan and Byrne were "warned off" for "excessive use and misuse of the whip" at the Cheltenham Festival, which prevents them from attending any Jockey Club meeting until June 26.

At a special meeting of the Irish Turf Club yesterday, the stewards, while regretting the incidents, said that they "consider the penalties severe." They added, however, that under the international agreement on breed*ing and racing*, the penalties will apply in Ireland and both jockeys may not ride on their home courses until the end of the ban.

However, the Irish stewards have exercised their discretion in the matter, and have not declared *Ryan and Byrne disqualified* persons in Ireland. This means that they can attend Irish meetings as spectators.

Tied Cottage, who failed a dope test after winning the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup last month, is likely to return to the course tomorrow week to run in the State Express Golden Miller Steeplechase. With Jack of Trumps taken out of the £20,000 added Irish Distillers Grand National at *Fairyhouse* next Monday, *Tied* Cottage is now top of the handicap

Nottingham results

2.0 (2.4) **OLD TRAFFORD STAKES** (*2-y-o maiden fillies: £937: 5f*)

PANAY, b f, by Arch Sculptor—Sundalgo (C. Barber-Lomax), 8-11 .... O. Gray (6-1) 1
Miss Quaver .. P. Eddery (4-1 fav) 2
Miss Murton .. D. McKeown (8-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 9-2 Rikasso Beauty, 11-2 Ceremonious, 10-1 Escarte, Nautique, 14-1 Lulu's Pet, 16-1 Crosby Triangle, 20-1 Alison Nicola, 25-1 Aberdeen Rose, Mount Eliza (4th), Play Ms. Pontet. 14 ran.

TOTE: Win, 54p; places, 10p, 11p, 90p; dual forecast, 75p. CSF, £5.04. T. Fairhurst, at Middleham. 5l, ¾l.

2.30 (2.32) **TAVERN HANDICAP** (*Selling: 3-y-o: £489: 1½m*)

MR PETIT, gr or ro g, by Zeddaan—Balholm (P. Asquith). 8-0 car 8-4 .... G. Dwyer (9-2) 1
Hot Gun ...... P. Cook (4-1 fav) 2
Black Pirate .... E. Johnson (9-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 9-2 Prime Captive, 5-1 Run Rabbit Run, 13-2 Burglars Mink, 20-1 Laura's Pride (4th), Ramada, 25-1 Friesland Lass. 9 ran.

TOTE: Win, 42p; places, 11p, 46p, 11p; dual forecast, 75p. CSF, £2.2[illegible]. P. Asquith, at Wetherby. 2l, 4l. There was no bid for the winner.

3.0 (3.1) **LORDS STAKES** (Handicap: *3-y-o: £1,349: 5f*)

CHAMP D'AVRIL, b f, by Northfields—April Twelfth (Lady Weir), 9-2 .... C. Nutter (5-1) 1
Willowbrook Flyer W. Wharton (11-10 fav) 2
Mindblowing .... J. Lowe (15-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 Harlyn (4th), 11-1 Pingalong, 13-1 Lady Lowery, 16-1 Vans, 25-1 *Loquacity*. 8 ran.

TOTE: Win, 74p; places, 49p, 10p, 10p; dual forecast, 84p. CSF, £1.06. M. Prescott, at Newmarket. 1l, 2½l.

3.30 (3.31) **HEADINGLEY STAKES** (*3-y-o: £1,133: 6f*)

SHAYBOOB, ch g, by The Go-Between—Pepin (A. Nasmani), 8-12 .... T. Ives (4-1) 1
Tobermory Boy P. Eddery (3-1 fav) 2
Benjamo .... J. Reid (7-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 8-1 Cowhill, Rama Tibodi, 10-1 Infant Prodigy (4th), 14-1 Quiet Touch, Racing Blonde, 16-1 Mar *Del Plata*, *Sportola*, 33-1 Master Touch, Mae Mae, Burglar Tip. 13 ran.

TOTE: Win, 78p; places, 20p, 18p, 12p; dual forecast, 77p. CSF, £1.75. W. O'Gorman at Newmarket. ¾l, ½l.

4.0 (4.0) **TRENT BRIDGE HANDICAP** (*£1,547: 2m*)

PENWOOD, b m, by *Precipice Wood*—Pennview (J. Archer), 7-7 P. Robinson (16-1) 1
Bonds Best .. B. Crossley (12-1) 2
New Top .... C. Leonard (7-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 4-1 jt fav Skewsby, Calypso Joe, 11-2 Fata Morgana, 12-1 Marzook, 13-1 Padski (4th), 14-1 Baltic Love, 16-1 Cen Beauty, Marsharlol, Sofronoff, 20-1 Seamark, 33-1 Cerrards Cross, Dean's Guy. 15 ran.

TOTE: Win, 85p; places, 24p, 40p, 55p; dual forecast, £32.62. CSF £19.75. N. Hall at Burton on Trent. 10l, 1l.

4.30 (4.31) **OVAL MAIDEN STAKES** (*3-y-o maidens: £1,070: 1¼m*)

RAG DANCER, br c, by Ragstone—May Day Follies (Mrs M. Fletcher), 9-0 M. Wigham (25-1) 1
Columbian ...... P. Cook (7-1) 2
Espadrille .... E. Hide (7-1) 3.

ALSO RAN: 3-1 Jay Mornans Pearl, 11-2 Law Of The Land, Norfolk Flight, 14-1 Layth, 16-1 Good Information, 20-1 Captain Brassbound, Our Bara Boy, Tudor Wyddial (4th), 25-1 Lauking, My Martina, Ring The Nurse, The Son, Top Sword, My Danny Boy. 17 ran. Daring Knight did not run.

TOTE: Win, £1.41; places, 5[illegible]p, 61p, 55p; dual forecast, £8.85. CSF £18.50. W. Elsey at Malton. 4l, 5l.

TOTE DOUBLE: Mr Petit and Champ d'Avril, £75.45. TREBLE: Champ d'Avril, Shayboob and Penwood, £35.15. JACKPOT: not won. £18,079.40 carried forward to Ascot tomorrow. PLACEPOT: £65.00.

Hereford NH

2.0: 1, Entebbe (4-6 fav); 2, Whistling Scot (33-1); 3, Fizycal Wreck (33-1). 15 ran. Blow Your Top, Eagle Owl did not run. TOTE: Win, 21p; places, 11p, 44p, £2.32; dual forecast, £6.41. CSF: £2.52. F. Yardley. 8l, 5l.

2.30: 1, Maurice (100-30 fav); 2, If and When (6-1); 3, Midnight Pansy (16-1). 14 ran. Hardstone did not run. TOTE: Win, 62p; places, 42p, 1[illegible]p, 15p; dual forecast, 40p CSF: £1.40. M. Pipe. 4l, 4l.

3.0: 1, Pipe Band (2-1); 2, Balling (11-10 fav); 3, Mister Cool (7-1). 8 ran. Marren Dene, Follifoot's Folly did not run.

TOTE: Win, 46p; places, 26p, 11p, 15p; dual forecast, 18p. CSF: 45p. P. Calver. 5l, 2½l.

3.30: 1, Cheekie Ora (4-5 fav); 2, Royal Air (7-2); 3, Red Wasp (20-1). 11 ran.

TOTE: Win, 17p; places, 10p, 12p, 43p; dual forecast, 17p CSF: 42p. H. Parry. 1½l, 15l.

4.0: 1, Portway Nick (11-8 fav); 2, Little Fleur (10-1); 3, Gay Park (8-1). 10 ran. Shifting Gold, Trentishoe did not run.

TOTE: Win, 13p; places, 10p, 29p, 11p; dual forecast, £1.35. CSF: £1.66. F. Smith. 3l, 8l.

4.30: 1, Raging Torrent (7-2); 2, Concorde Girl (6-4 fav); 3, Jack's Walk (9-2). 15 ran. Robbie Lad, *Midnight Warrior did not run*.

TOTE: Win, 58p; places, 14p, 10p, 23p; dual forecast, 25p CSF: 91p. F. Walwyn. 10l, 4l.

5.0: 1, Galilee (11-8 fav); 2, Tamahoden Tudo (6-1); 3, Royal Son (5-1). 10 ran. Moon Hawk, Eagle Bridge did not run.

TOTE: Win, 16p; places, 11p, 12p, 21p; dual forecast, 24p. CSF: 41p. R. Armytage. 3l, hd.

Kelso programme

2.15 SPROUSTON HURDLE (Selling handicap: £403: 2m)

2 212/13 Jean Marjorie (D), D. Yeoman, 9-11-7 .... M. Stephens 7
3 321000 Hurry Back (D), J. Hubbuck, 14-11-5 ...... Mr T. Reed 7
4 200000 Mr Resistor (CD), V. Thompson, 7-11-3 .... *R. Lamb*
5 000003 Irish Prince (D), W. Wright, 7-11-2 .... S. Houlker 7
6 0224u0 Artaum, R. Allan, 5-11-1 .... R. Barry
7 031p42 Young Horn (D), E. Carter, 8-10-12 .... J. O'Neill
9 004004 My Star Hussar, Miss B. Oliver, 5-10-11 ...... Miss B. Oliver 4
13 0p0400 Meadow Walk (D), W. Young, 6-10-0 .... J. O'Connell 7
15 000- Eaglesham, C. Bell, 5-10-0 .... D. Nolan
17 pp- First Boy, N. Chamberlain, 6-10-0 .... D. McCaskill 7

5-2 Young Horn, 3-1 Jean Marjorie, 5-1 Hurry Back, 6-1 Artaum, 8-1 My *Star Hussar*, 12-1 *Eaglesham*, *Meadow Walk*, 20-1 *others*.

2.45 CLYDE BRIDGE CHASE (Handicap: £996: 2m 196yds)

1 0114f1 Polare Smartie (CD), R. Goldie, 9-12-0 .... A. Dickman
3 [illegible] Brother Will (CD), W. A. Stephenson, 8-11-8 .... R. Lamb
6 101202 Robbie's Park, K. Oliver, 6-10-12 .... T. O'Connell 7
9 [illegible] Gone Out, J. S. Wilson, 10-10-6 .... C. Grant 4
11 00-4400 Burgundy Beau (CD), Mrs D. Thomson, 9-10-3 .... Mr T. Dun

9-4 Gone Out, 5-2 Brother Will, 7-2 Robbie's Park, 4-1 Polare Smartie, 10-1 Burgundy Beau.

3.15 TENNENT QUAICH HURDLE (Handicap: £1,396: 2½m)

2 p00000 Gold Invader (CD), A. Scott, 7-11-10 .... C. Tinkler
4 211104 Golden Lane (C), T. Dalgetty, 6-11-7 .... J. O'Neill
6 001100 Peaty Sandy (D), Mrs S. Chesmore, 6-11-4 .... L. Lungo
7 220302 Rydal Mount (C), H. Hetherington, 7-11-3 Mr W. Hetherington 4
11 004311 Camden, R. McDonald, 6-10-11 .... D. Nolan
17 p2140-p Minimist, D. Macdonald, 7-10-0 .... J. Goulding 1
19 314000 Heller-Loup, S. Wiles, 6-10-0 .... R. Lamb
21 040-000 Canty's Brig, D. Thomson, 7-10-0 .... —
27 0000 Ascot Royale, J. S. Wilson, 9-10-0 .... C. Grant 4

2-1 Rydal Mount, 11-4 Camden, 6-1 Golden Lane, 6-1 Peaty Sandy, 8-1 Gold Invader, 12-1 Minimist, 16-1 others.

3.45 BUCCLEUCH CHASE (Hunters: amateurs: £394: 3m)

1 p-p Crichton Castle, Miss D. Calder, 7-12-0 ...... Miss D. Calder 7
2 Gayle Warning, J. Dudgeon, 6-12-0 .... A. Dudgeon 7
3 0000p-f Karanos, Mrs Hutchison-Bradburne, 7-12-0 .... J. Bradburne 7
4 244- Kitta, Mrs Hutchison-Bradburne, 10-12-0 .. Mrs J. Bradburne 7
6 Stitched in Time, W. Monteith, 8-12-0 .... W. Monteith 7
7 u Stone Knight, J. Wight, 8-12-0 .... A. Wight 7

1-10 Gayle Warning, 4-1 Karanos, 6-1 Kitta, 8-1 Stitched in Time, 12-1 Crichton Castle, 16-1 Stone Knight.

4.15 SPRINGWOOD CHASE (Novices: £810: 2½m)

1 420000 Arctic Cross, W. Wright, 8-11-10 .... Mr E. McIntyre 7
2 b22021 Scrunch, R. Brewis, 7-11-10 .... J. O'Neill
3 [illegible] Arctic Silver, J. Beck, 8-11-0 .... D. Nolan
4 [illegible] Bay Corniche, N. Chamberlain, 7-11-0 .... D. McCaskill 7
9 pp4 Coopers Hill, R. Conlon, 10-11-0 .... G. Graham
10 343 Dalloway, T. Craig, 8-11-0 .... J. Mooney 4
13 0000-0 Fortalice, S. Leadbetter, 6-11-0 .... M. Barnes
14 0 Gleon, C. Bell, 8-11-0 .... R. Lamb
16 f-0p Lissadel's Glory, W. Wright, 7-11-0 .... S. Houlker 7
17 p24121 London Gay, K. Oliver, 9-11-0 .... Mr T. Dun
19 00- My Noble Knight, Mrs P. Ellwood, 8-11-0 ...... C. Grant 4
20 004200 Noble Hart, A. Nicholson, 8-11-0 .... A. Dickman
22 p- Running Blind, A. Mactaggart, 7-11-0 .... R. Barry
25 30-042u Spartan Red, H. McConnell, 10-11-0 ...... Mr D. Robertson 3

11-4 Scrunch, 4-1 Noble Hart, 5-1 London Gay, 11-2 Spartan Red, 7-1 Dalloway, 10-1 Arctic Cross, 12-1 Arctic Silver, 14-1 others.

4.45 BOWMONT HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £501: 2m)

2 4402 Aversun, W. Haigh, 10-12 .... P. Charlton
5 02000 Glendyne, J. Kettlewell, 10-12 .... S. Kettlewell 7
9 Mount Magic, R. Allan, 10-12 .... B. Holohan 7
11 p00 Private Business, W. A. Stephenson, 10-12 .... R. Lamb
16 00000p Swift Rose, W. Young, 10-12 .... T. O'Connell 7
18 000 The Clansman, J. Love, 10-12 .... Mr S. Love 7
20 Upshot, J. Charlton, 10-12 .... Miss J. Charlton 7
21 Welcome Sight, J. Hartley, 10-12 .... R. Barry

11-8 Aversun, 7-2 Glendyne, 9-1 Private Business, 8-1 The Clansman, 16-1 Mount Magic, Upshot, 20-1 Swift Rose, Welcome Sight.

Kelso selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.15 Young Horn. 2.45 Gone Out. 3.15 Rydal Mount. 3.45 Gayle Warning. 4.15 Noble Hart. 4.45 Aversun.

Ascot selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

2.0 Remigio. 2.35 Snowtown Boy. 3.5 Sweeping Along. 3.35 Mountrivers. 4.10 Foxworthy. 4.40 Tumbler.

GO EAST WITHOUT GOING WEST.

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PARLIAMENT, April 1, 1980

Phone tapping justified if it protects law-abiding from crime and terrori

House of Commons

The Government believed that new standing arrangements for monitoring the operation and control of interception of communications would be a valuable additional assurance to Parliament and the public that the powers of interception were exercised strictly, sparingly and responsibly, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, declared in a statement.

He announced that the Government had decided not to introduce legislation but that it would be desirable if there were a continuous independent check that interception was being carried out in accordance with the established purposes and procedures. They proposed to invite a senior member of the judiciary to carry out this task.

His terms of reference will be: "To review on a continuing basis the purposes, procedures, conditions and safeguards governing the interception of communications on behalf of the police, HM Customs and Excise and the Security Service as set out in the White Paper published today (Command Paper 7873) and to report to the Prime Minister."

Mr Whitelaw, in his statement, said:

The House will recall that, following the Vice-Chancellor's judgment in *Malone v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis*, my predecessor, Mr Merlyn Rees, informed the House on March 8, 1979, that he proposed to put in hand a study of the implications of that judgment. On June 13, 1979, I told the House that I had directed that this study should be continued to its completion, and would inform the House of my conclusions in due course.

Since that study began, a number of questions have been raised about the practice and extent of interception.

The study has been completed. The Government has also made a thorough review of the procedures and conditions which, since the report of the Committee of Privy Counsellors under the chairmanship of Lord Birkett in 1957, have been the basis of our arrangements in these matters.

Over the years, there have been minor changes of practice; but in all essentials the principles and procedures laid down by Birkett continue to be observed, including the fact that interception takes place only on the personal warrant of the Secretary of State.

I have today published a Command Paper which sets out the Birkett principles and procedures as they operate today. It covers, as the Birkett report did, interception on behalf of the police, HM Customs & Excise and the Security Service.

Information about interception in Northern Ireland is excluded from the Command Paper because the need to be able to combat terrorism there makes it undesirable to disclose any details. However, I can assure the House that the procedures, conditions and safeguards set out in the Command Paper are observed in Northern Ireland, subject only to the overriding requirements for dealing with terrorism.

In particular, the personal authorization of the Secretary for State for Northern Ireland has to be obtained for each individual interception.

The interception of communications, whether by the opening and reading of letters, or by recording and listening to telephone communications, is an interference with the freedom of the individual in a democratic society.

Nonetheless when carried out by the properly constituted authorities it is justified if its aims and consequences help to protect the law-abiding citizen from the threats of crime and violence and the fabric of democracy from the menaces of espionage, terrorism and subversion.

Allegations have been made that interception is now practised on a vastly wider scale than at the time of the Birkett inquiry. I hope that the figures quoted in the Command Paper, which bring up-to-date those in the Birkett Report, will provide reassurance on this score.

There has been a modest overall increase in the total number of warrants signed and a change in the balance between telephone and letter interception which reflects the greatly increased use of the telephone since 1957. But, given the very considerable growth in serious crime and in particular the development of the terrorist threat during the intervening years, I believe that the Figures demonstrate that the use of interception continues to be tightly controlled.

In his judgment in Malone v Commissioner of Police, the Vice-Chancellor (Sir Robert Megarry) found that interception undertaken on behalf of the police under the warrant of the Secretary of State was not illegal. There is, therefore, no need for legislation to make duly authorized interception lawful.

He drew attention to the fact that the restrictions and safeguards under which interception is conducted are, in this country, matters of administrative practice and not (as in some other countries) of statute. He went on to suggest that it was for consideration whether the procedures and conditions governing the use of interception should be embodied in legislation.

In its review, the Government has considered this suggestion with great care. The interception of communications is, by definition, a practice that depends for its effectiveness and value upon being carried out in secret, and cannot therefore be subject to the normal processes of parliamentary control.

Its acceptability in a democratic society depends on its being subject to Ministerial control, and on the readiness of the public and their representatives in Parliament to repose their trust in the ministers concerned to exercise that control responsibility and with a right sense of balance between the value of interception as a means of protecting order and security and the threat which it may present to the liberty of the subject.

Within the necessary limits of secrecy, I and my colleagues who are concerned are responsible to Parliament for our stewardship in this field. There would be no more sense in making such secret matters justiciable than there would be in my being obliged to reveal them to the House.

If the power to intercept were to be regulated by statute, then the courts would have power to enquire into the matter and to do so, if not publicly, then at least in the presence of the complainant. This must surely limit the use of interception as a tool of investigation. The Government has come to the clear conclusion that the procedures, conditions and safeguards described in the Command Paper ensure strict control of interception by ministers, are a good and sufficient protection for the liberty of the subject, and would not be made significantly more effective for that purpose by being embodied in legislation.

After announcing the independent check by a senior member of the judiciary, Mr Whitelaw said the judge would have the right of access to papers, and the right to request additional information from the departments and organizations concerned.

For the purpose of his first report, which will be published, he will examine (he went on) all the arrangements set out in the Command Paper published today. His subsequent reports on the detailed operation of the arrangements will not be published; but Parliament will be informed of any findings of a general nature and of any changes that are made in the arrangements.

Mr Merlyn Rees, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Leeds, South, Lab) in questions on Mr Whitelaw's statement, said—I give a firm welcome to the publication of the White Paper. The facts given in it are those which I wish I could have used in the face of articles published in recent months.

I am glad to see the figures on the amount of telephone tapping and the clear statement on procedures, conditions and safeguards that have followed. On safeguards, I can confirm that the continuous checks were carried out when I was Home Secretary and I accept they are carried out now.

The question is whether another Birkett inquiry is necessary before the continuous review suggested in the White Paper is begun. In any event, I welcome the continuous check on the purpose, procedures, conditions and safeguards governing interceptions.

I hope in whatever form it is done, the allegations about unauthorized tapping will be cleared up.

I have always felt that trust in the ways a Home Secretary carries out his duties is vital. Whatever form of legislation, whatever form of White Papers, unless there is complete trust, no procedures will work.

From time to time there is a need for the executive to be accountable to Parliament on the basis of a suitable inquiry, accountable in a way that takes into account the secrecy that is vital, particularly over terrorism.

The White Paper says clearly that the procedures are carried out in Northern Ireland. It would be the height of folly to give numbers of any sort in Northern Ireland.

I have not made up my mind on the need for legislation. I shall read the White Paper carefully and then I hope we can have a debate.

Mr Whitelaw—When we were in Opposition we certainly trusted the way he carried out his duties. I have sought to carry them out in exactly the same way as he and all my predecessors did.

I felt it right to update the Birkett inquiry and put out a Command Paper giving the figures in order to make the position clear. Updating the Birkett inquiry set out as fully as any inquiry could do both the policy and the practice of interception.

The role of the monitor, which will be a continuing one, is valuable and will prove in the long term a more effective check than any single inquiry.

On the allegations about unauthorized interception, Section 58 (1) of the Post Office Act 1953 and other provisions in the Post Office Act 1953 make certain unauthorized interference with communications illegal. The only way they become legal is through the warrant of the Secretary of State. That is an important safeguard.

Mr Percy Grieve (Solihull, C)—The first of Mr Whitelaw's duties is the protection of this country from crime, terrorism and subversion. Upon his vigilance depends the maintenance of freedom under the law.

Just as we had the utmost confidence in the way Mr Rees, as Home Secretary, exercised his powers in these matters, we have confidence in Mr Whitelaw. We look to Opposition MPs to have similar confidence.

There will be a general welcome for the way in which it is proposed that the judiciary and a high judicial figure will be associated in protecting British subjects in this matter.

Mr Whitelaw—Interception plays an extremely important part in the protection of our citizens from terrorism. It also plays an important part in dealing with sophisticated crime and with drug smuggling.

I am conscious that I have to balance interception for these purposes against the liberty of the subject. It is my job to get the balance right.

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L)—Has any MP ever been the subject of an interception order? Would he consider subdividing the number of interception orders into those investigated by the police, by Customs and Excise and by the security forces?

We welcome the senior judiciary intervention. Would it not be wise either to publish the name of the person he has appointed or to consider making it three officers of the judiciary?

Mr Whitelaw—On the last point, I thought it courteous to the House and Opposition to put forward this proposal and then to decide and discuss who would be appropriate.

As for MPs, I would refer him to the reply given by Sir Harold Wilson in 1966, which has been subsequently repeated by all Prime Ministers, including Mrs Thatcher in February of this year. Sir Harold Wilson said there was no tapping of MPs' telephones, nor had there been since his government took office. That was the Government's decision and policy.

If there was any development of a kind which required a change of policy he would at such moment as was compatible with the security of the country on his own initiative make a statement in the House about it.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, Scot Nat)—Even the Prime Minister of the day was kept in ignorance of the activities and confession of Anthony Blunt.

Can Mr Whitelaw guarantee that he and his successors are kept fully in the picture on the degree of interception? (Labour cheers.)

Mr Whitelaw—Interception can only take place if I have signed the warrant. I cannot sign the warrant unless I am given the facts.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C)—He said there had been a moderate overall increase in the use of interception. Can he give an assurance that when he grants his personal warrant, it will be a personal granting and in no way a case of something slipping through his department on a recommendation of his officials on a say-so from him on anything less than a close personal examination?

Mr Whitelaw—When I said there had been a modest overall increase I was referring to the figures as given in the White Paper. In view of the increase in terrorism and sophisticated crime of all sorts in the period under review, the figures are modest indeed.

He perhaps has known me well enough over the years to be pretty clear that I am unlikely to put my signature to any document which I have not studied extremely carefully.

Mr Wedgwood Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab)—There is a widespread view that the balance between the security of the state and the liberties of the individual should not be vested in individuals but should be brought before Parliament for proper legislation.

In the light (he added) of the great concern there is about this, not just in this country but all over the world, will he press urgently that there should be a proper debate where these views can be properly expressed?

Mr Whitelaw—I cannot agree about the value of legislation in this particular case, but I understand the argument he put forward. As to the question of debate, I made the position clear.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C)—Would he refer to the key word used by the former Home Secretary, which is trust?

In a matter that cannot be justiciable and cannot be legislated, it is better that this House should look to the Home Seretary of the day whom it can call to account as the person it trusts in establishing the right balance between the undoubted rights of the individual, his freedom and personal privacy, and the equal rights of the state to secure itself against subversion, espionage and terror.

Mr Whitelaw—This is a matter in the final event that has to be decided on a narrow judgment. This House would, in the long run, regret it if it removed responsibility from a minister in a Cabinet, responsible to this House, to some people outside who were not responsible to this House.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab)—His department has laboured for a year on this and produced a mouse. Is it right that the judges' assertion that there should be legislation should be turned aside on the basis that this is a matter that cannot be justiciable, when most of the signatures to the European Convention have legislation and when you can apply for a search warrant to search premises of terrorists to a magistrates' court but you cannot trust judges with issuing a warrant for telephone tapping?

Mr Whitelaw—That was a little ungenerous. Our law is different to that of the other countries he mentioned. We have different procedures. We are right to proceed as we are doing. Honestly, legislation would risk undermining the value of interception to the public without offering any more safeguards.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C)—Intervention has not only played an important role in conserving a considerable amount of public revenue, but has played an important part in the interception of over 50 per cent of the cases of seizure of heroin and cocaine.

Mr Whitelaw—In 1978 it is estimated that about 62 per cent of the seizure of heroin were due to interception and 56 per cent of cocaine. There are si[illegible] sults of a similar nat[illegible]

We have proposed [illegible] dent continuing chec[illegible] report under this pr[illegible] be published to Pa[illegible] continuing check of [illegible] more valuable and m[illegible] in all the circumsta[illegible] single inquiry.

Mr Alan Clark (Plym[illegible] C)—Would he comme[illegible] of this procedure for [illegible] gations?

Mr Whitelaw—The [illegible] Excise warrants are d[illegible] entirely with drugs. W[illegible] dealing in matters o[illegible] they would only deal [illegible] frauds such as settin[illegible] pany with the purpos[illegible] ing the exchequer of [illegible] money.

There is no quest[illegible] warrants being used [illegible] into VAT commitme[illegible] mate firms and compa[illegible]

Mr James Kilfedder ([illegible] UU)—Because of the [illegible] paign which has bee[illegible] Northern Ireland over [illegible] years or more, it [illegible] assumed there will be [illegible] number of telephone [illegible] place in the province i[illegible] to the rest of the Unit[illegible]

That does not justif[illegible] to give the figures. [illegible] and his refusal to ext[illegible] cial monitoring to Ulst[illegible] concern in Northern I[illegible] many people believe p[illegible] takes place, condem[illegible] Army, and is extende[illegible] who are not engaged [illegible] and terrorist activities.

Mr Whitelaw—At one [illegible] a critic of mine for [illegible] determination about s[illegible] I am the person who [illegible] up for the vital secur[illegible] Northern Ireland and [illegible]

To follow the co[illegible] requested would mean [illegible] doing harm to act[illegible] terrorists in Northern [illegible]

Mr Jonathan Aitke[illegible] East, C)—The buggi[illegible] body's house could be [illegible] just as much a th[illegible] freedom of the indiv[illegible] tapping of someone's [illegible]

Is there any reas[illegible] same procedures and [illegible] that apply to telepho[illegible] tion should not apply [illegible]

Mr Whitelaw—When [illegible] make a statement abo[illegible] lar matter I confine [illegible] that. I have dealt wi[illegible] interception in some [illegible] think I ought to co[illegible] to that.

Minister's assurance on value of pensions

House of Lords

Pensioners could be assured that the real value of their pensions would be maintained under the Social Security Bill, Lady Young, Minister of State for Education and Science (C) said when she moved the second reading.

She said the Government recognized that its objective in linking basic retirement pensions to prices rather than prices or earnings had caused concern about the effects on pensioners' living standards, but she believed that the underlying principle was sound.

The clause concerned indicated the Government's firm commitment to protect retirement pensions against rising prices. The Government regarded this as a minimum, and as and when the economy improved, pensioners and others would share in rising prosperity.

There was a need for urgent reform if the supplementary benefits system was not to collapse under the pressure on it. The keynote of the Government's reform was simplification, with a new legal and administrative framework and the structure of the benefits themselves would be simplified.

Resources would be directed towards families with children.

The proposals in the Bill for automatic recovery of overpayment of benefit paid into a person's account had attracted criticism. The Government would bring forward at the committee stage proposals to meet the criticism.

These were overdue reforms of the supplementary benefit system, designed to give claimants a better deal and to help staff to administer the system in a more equitable way.

Lord Wells-Pestell (Lab), an Opposition spokesman, said pensioners must be protected against rising prices and this the Government was proposing to do but it was the Opposition's view that pensioners should also share in the higher standard of living which higher earnings made possible.

If the system which the Government was now proposing to adopt had been in operation in recent years it would have resulted in the retirement pension being £5 less than it was when the Government came into office.

Savings should not be made at the expense of sections of the community unable to afford them.

He wondered whether the Government's reason for its proposals was because a saving of 1 per cent on an uprating yielded £130m a year.

Lord Banks (L) said the Government's proposals constituted a considerable assault on the boundaries of the welfare state.

Lady Macleod of Borve (C) said that because of the overlapping benefits rule she was concerned that a widow who had been receiving an invalidity pension when she was married might lose it when her husband died and she received the widows' pension.

Lady Lockwood (Lab) said there were still some discriminations in the treatment of men and women. The non-contributary invalidity pension had not been extended to ensure that housewives were covered in the same way as their husbands.

Disabled women had to undergo an additional test as to whether they could perform normal household duties. The invalid care allowance was not available to married women at all.

Lady Vickers (C) said there were not many scroungers in the category they were discussing today. She had found that many claims could have been made by people who were living in distressed circumstances through no fault of their own, but they had not done so either because they had too much pride or did not understand how they could get help.

The Countess of Loudoun (Ind) said that many of the special financial needs of severely disabled people would no longer be met by the supplementary benefit system. These people were being "simplified" out of the system. Discussions should begin as soon as possible to agree what financial provisions would take the place of supplementary benefit for disabled people.

Lady Faithful (C) said she hoped the new advisory committee to be set up would be composed of people of understanding and knowledge and not of the "Man from Whitehall" type. They should have a sense of commitment and a knowledge of the work of the spectrum of social security.

Lady Elliot of Harwood (C) said the social security system should be made as simple as possible so that everyone could understand it.

Lord Wallace of Coslany (Lab), an Opposition spokesman, said he had considerable doubts about the Bill and it was appropriate they should be discussing it on April 1.

The Bill was read a second time.

Buying off a strike is a remedy that only lasts until next strike

The Prime Minister said during questions that she hoped work in the British steel industry would soon resume and that they would recover the orders for steel that the country needed.

Mr Allan Roberts (Bootle, Lab) earlier said—At a meeting this morning, dock shop stewards throughout the country decided to make the strike in Liverpool docks in support of the steel workers a national strike. (Loud Conservative laughter.)

This is another example of how Mrs Thatcher and the Government have galvanized the trade union movement against confrontation policies. (Renewed laughter.) She should direct her policies towards conciliation and start by dropping the Employment Bill.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C)—One of the outstanding things in the last few weeks of the steel strike has been the way ordinary members of trade unions have kept on at their jobs and not given any support to the steel strike. (Conservative cheers.)

Whatever the past may have held, I hope the steel workers will go back today, or next week, and we will be able to recover many of the orders lost by turning out steel of quality, of the right type, and at the right price.

Mr Michael Foot, Deputy leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab)—Has Mrs Thatcher had a chance of calculating what is the cost to the nation and the burden on the nation which follows from her refusal before Christmas to appoint a reasonable intervention in the steel dispute?

Does she understand that her obstinacy in this matter has cost the country hundreds of millions of pounds? (Labour cheers and Conservative protests.)

Mrs Thatcher—Mr Foot in Opposition only has one reply to a strike and that is to buy it off. (Loud Conservative cheers.) That remedy only lasts until the next strike.

Mr Foot—Since the Prime Minister talks about buying-off strikes, does she think the appointment of this latest inquiry was buying off the strike? (Labour cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher—This was an arbitration—(Labour protests)—which was in one of the agreements of one of the trade unions which they could have had many, many weeks ago. (Conservative cheers.) They might have been back to work a lot earlier, but they refused to have arbitration, even although the British Steel Corporation wished to have it.

Mr Foot—She is the person who refused to have an inquiry—(Conservative protests)—and blocked the door to any intervention then. When is she going to take her responsibility in these matters?

Mrs Thatcher—I really must correct Mr Foot. He knows full well that is not true. We said in this House a number of times when the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Callaghan) was here that the BSC would have gone for arbitration or mediation. It took some time before the unions would accept it. Mr Foot knows that so there is no point in proceeding in a denial.

Mr Richard Alexander (Newark, C)—On the outcome of the steel strike, the majority of people in this country are more than satisfied that the Government has not been a party to the dispute. (Conservative cheers.) Mrs Thatcher should further reflect that if only the workers had been given the opportunity of a secret ballot, it would have been settled long ago.

Mrs Thatcher—I know that the workers have had to suffer for many weeks without even having had the opportunity of a ballot on whether they wanted to go on strike, or accept an earlier offer.

I hope work will soon resume and we shall recover the orders for steel this country needs.

Private Bills

The Clifton Suspension Bridge Bill was read the third time in the Commons and the Highlands and Islands Air Services (Scotland) Bill was read the third time and passed in the Lords.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Easter adjournment motion. Education (No 2) Bill, Lords amendments.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30. Debate on the budget.

Serving the government of the day

Anyone who sought to undermine the principle that the Civil Service serves the government of the day, of whatever political complexion, was doing a disservice to the service and to democracy, the Prime Minister said during questions.

Mr Archibald Hamilton (Epsom and Ewell, C) asked Mrs Thatcher to comment on a letter in *The Guardian* on Monday in which an official of the Society of Civil and Public Servants had said that his members in the Department of Health and Social Security might decide to defy the law and not deduct the £12 "deemed" in the budget from social security payments to strikers' families.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C)—I saw the letter. Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for Social Services referred to it yesterday. The person who wrote the letter is not a member of the Civil Service but it is clear that the basis of the standing and reputation of the Civil Service is that it serves the government of the day, whatever the political complexion of that government.

Anyone who seeks to undermine that principle does the Civil Service a great disservice—and the cause of democracy as well.

Removing the blinkers on athletes

Newspaper reports that the Russians had killed 5,000 people in Afghanistan must be taken into account by those considering going to Moscow for something which would be seen by the Russians as giving approval to their policies, the Prime Minister said during questions.

Mr Cranley Onslow (Woking, C) asked whether Mrs Thatcher had seen reports in the past two weeks that 5,000, including women and children, had been killed by the Russians in Afghanistan.

Will she continue her efforts (he asked) to get British athletes to take off their blinkers and realize that if they persist in going to Moscow, they will be delivering themselves to be exploited by the communist propagandist machine. (Labour protests.)

Mrs Margaret Thatcher—I have seen a number of reports in the press which purport to be eyewitness accounts of those who have had to flee from Afghanistan and which indicated what they saw there. Some members of a football team have sought refuge.

These factors must be taken into account by those considering going to Moscow in what would be to the Russians something which gave approval to their policies.

Dock strike debate sought

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate to discuss the calling of a national dock strike by the docks delegate conference of the Transport and General Workers' Union this morning in support of the official strike at the Port of Liverpool.

He said the strike had been called for 8 am tomorrow (Wednesday). It could affect the whole economy and the Government should state clearly what action it would take to end the dispute.

The dockers (he said) are correct in what they are doing. This is important because it hinges on the settlement or outcome of the steel dispute. It can affect the outcome of the steel dispute settlement.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas) said he would not grant Mr Heffer's request today. He realized the recess was near and that there was to be an adjournment debate tomorrow.

We will see (he said) what happens.

Difficulties admitted as Government seek change hostile climate facing industry

With real profits so low, manufacturing companies would have little, if any, fat to cushion them from this year's difficulties, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said in opening the final day's debate on the budget.

However, he regarded it as nothing short of marvellous that despite the hostile economic climate, the hostile industrial relations climate and the hostile intellectual climate, British manufacturing business had done relatively well.

Sir Keith Joseph (Leeds, North-East, C) said that one notable feature of the budget had been that throughout the Chancellor had drawn a distinction between those aspects of economic life over which the Government had control and those aspects over which it might have aspirations, but had no control.

That was a realistic, and, alas, a novel way for the Chancellor to approach his task. The performance of industry was not within the Government's power to control and nor was the rate of growth, but both were products of a wide range of matters. However, to some extent, but not entirely, within the Government's power was the climate within which industry operated.

For some time the climate within which industry had to operate had been hostile. There had been a surfeit of control, too much regulation and excessive tax on individuals at all levels. Industry had tended to be crowded out by Government and public sector spending.

The industrial relations climate within which industry had had to operate had also been hostile with an imbalance of power in favour of unions. The international climate had also been hostile to industry.

He had recently seen a paper in which an economist professor who had been teaching economics for decades had said that the subject of entrepreneurship was novel to him.

It was nothing short of marvellous that despite the hostile economic, industrial and intellectual climates, British manufacturing business had done relatively well.

The Government's main aim was to reduce the cost of financing the public sector and thus to get interest rates down. The Chancellor was tackling the worst obstacle of all: inflation.

The Government believed that beating inflation was a necessary, although not a sufficient condition for full employment, better public service and better benefits. Returning to monetary continence meant for the public sector a difficult year or two.

The squeeze on liquidity should be broadly comparable in severity to that of 1974 and 1975. Trading conditions in the short term were still worsening. Foreign competition would continue to be strong, and interest rates were unlikely to be reduced.

Profit margins, dangerously low in real terms, would be squeezed and many firms would face serious cash flow problems. Because the average contained the relatively better performance of the North Sea industries, manufacturing companies would be worst hit.

With real profits so low manufacturing companies would have little, if any, fat to cushion them from this year's difficulties.

With this difficult forecast (he said) there is little the Government can do to help.

Mr Michael Foot, Deputy Leader of the Opposition: It can go.

Sir Keith Joseph: Mr Foot says the Government should go. But if by any ghastly chance we were succeeded by a Labour Government which carried out the incoherent prescription of Mr Healey, the prospect would be catastrophic, and in his words, terminal, for the British economy.

The Government could not reflate the economy, nor would interest rates come down until steps they are taking to bring the money supply under control had produced some effect.

The remedy to the prospects that lay ahead was in the hands of the companies. In their own interests, they needed to realize the situation facing them. In 1974-75, the companies woke up to the problems far too late in the day.

The Government considered awareness was much greater today because of that past experience, but there were still large numbers of companies that did not recognize the cash squeeze that lay ahead. Every board of directors ought to be looking at cash flow forecasts, as well as to their stocks and level of investment.

It was hoped that the cost of raw materials and fuel which rose 41 per cent in the last year would not present the same problems in the coming year. British industry had to bear a hideous burden which but for the strength of sterling, would have been far heavier.

The task of companies, in their own interests, was to contain their costs. At the heart of this was the desperate need for managements to convince their work forces of the desperate need to contain their unit labour costs. The survival of jobs and whole firms would depend upon them being competitive in price terms and non-price terms.

No task would be more important in coming months than increasing understanding among work forces.

Despite all the difficulties, many firms were doing well. There was much expansion and many new business starts. There was a great deal of welcome vitality in the economy in all sizes of firms and industries. They were nearly achieving as many new jobs as they were losing jobs.

Much productivity could be gained without [illegible] competitiveness [illegible] Even where higher [illegible] could only be achiev[illegible] degree of redundanci[illegible] would be a healthi[illegible] with more firms survi[illegible] creased profits and [illegible] short time this could [illegible] jobs rather than few[illegible]

He was not [illegible] small firms, but they [illegible] portant role to play [illegible] the yeomen of [illegible] economy. (Labour [illegible] "Back to the Middl[illegible] They could be the he[illegible] of new jobs and it wo[illegible] not to encourage them[illegible]

A report by Ca[illegible] Lybrand commissione[illegible] Department of Indus[illegible] there was an excess [illegible] over supply for smal[illegible] premises all over the c[illegible]

The Chancellor had [illegible] this demonstrated sco[illegible] creased business activi[illegible] in a number of imagin[illegible]

The Government exp[illegible] result of the changes [illegible] there would be thousan[illegible] shop factories all ove[illegible] assisted areas of the c[illegible] because there would [illegible] same private sector [illegible] go into assisted areas, [illegible] ment was taking actio[illegible] them also.

In some of the mo[illegible] parts for this purpose [illegible] Industrial Estates [illegible] would be increasing p[illegible] small workshop units.

The budget was a ma[illegible] mixture of reality, the [illegible] strategy for creating a [illegible] rency and a climate wh[illegible] encourage enterprise [illegible] plus sustaining prosper[illegible] ing the prospect of [illegible] better public services an[illegible]

This Government [illegible] offered instant solutions [illegible] conditions were on the [illegible] the budget offered a[illegible] framework for [illegible] (Conservative cheers.)

Budget paves way for huge unemployment

Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition spokesman on industry (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab), said the budget paved the way for a massive and inexorable growth in unemployment. For the first time since the war a Tory Government was expressing what Tories had always instinctively believed: that poverty and unemployment were a small price to pay provided that the few could profit.

By the summer of next year unemployment in the United Kingdom would have passed the two million mark. Those two million would be unemployed not just for a few days or a few weeks but for years and so long as a Tory Government lasted the number would continue to rise.

There was an adage that lightning never struck twice in the same place, but to the people who lived in Scotland and the valleys of south Wales, in the north and the north-west it was an old story. Most of them had seen it before and did not believe it could happen again.

These were the areas which the Government had written off. They were areas where they were few Tory votes to be picked up. But there was growing up in these areas an undercurrent of frustration and anger that any government neglected at its peril.

It had always been part of the Tory dogma to try to separate one group of workers from another. The talk of scroungers and shirkers was nothing new. These words were applied during the 1930s. They deserved the same answer that Clement Attlee gave in 1935. He said that the only real test possible in order to find out the tiny percentage of shirkers from the vast majority of willing workers was an offer of work under fair conditions.

If the quality of life was to be improved there must be more people at work, not less. Industry must be used to provide the work and the manufactured goods that were necessary for that development.

Everyone knew that for the country to thrive it must export more manufactured goods than it imported. The unhappy truth was that the country had become a net importer. Last year, while exports of manufactured goods remained at the same level the importing of manufactured goods went up by 18 per cent.

What was the Government's answer? Deflation, more deflation, always deflation. Yet history, even recent history, taught the opposite lesson. The higher the level of domestic demand, the higher became manufacturing output and industrial investment. Increased demand was the key to increased investment provided it was not made by excessive imports of foreign goods.

Bill to protect fishermen

Mr Austin Mitchell (Grimsby, Lab) was given leave to bring in the Fishery Limits (Amendment) Bill to ensure that in the event of a conflict between Britain's legislation and Common Market provisions, British courts would be empowered to enforce British law as superior to EEC provisions.

He said the Bill would give power to control or exclude vessels from EEC countries. The United Kingdom could not do this in British waters now because they had accepted a common fisheries agreement stitched and cobbled together before Britain joined the EEC.

The most telling lesson of recent years (he said) has been the divergence in fortunes between those nations such as Iceland, who took control of their own limits, and Britain, which has not enforced the same controls and seen stocks decimated and plundered by continental fleets.

The Bill was read a first time.

Composition of Burnha[illegible]

Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said he had instituted a review of the composition of the Burnham Committee with the aim of making any necessary changes for the start of the next school year.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C)—As the professional Association of Teachers is the fastest growing teachers' body, showing an increase of over 100 per cent in the past year and numbering nearly 20,000 members, the Burnham Committee would be far more representative if this body was included on it.

Mr Carlisle (Runcorn, C)—He would not expect me to prejudge the outcome of the review but part of it is intended to try to get a correct count of the membership of the various unions in teaching.

Mr Ernest Armstrong (Durham, North West, Lab)—This association represents less than 5 per cent of teachers eligible to be members.

With the threat to education [illegible] posed by Government [illegible] there is greater need for [illegible] ing profession to speak [illegible] voice. Any fragmentation [illegible] tortion of teacher repr[illegible] would be a disservice to [illegible] generally.

Mr Carlisle—The teachi[illegible] sion has never spoken [illegible] voice. Part of the revie[illegible] desire to carry out a pro[illegible] of teachers within the [illegible] terms of reference on pri[illegible] secondary schools, which [illegible] each of the unions, as a [illegible] my review of the compo[illegible] Burnham.

Mr Peter Bottomley (G[illegible] Woolwich, West, C)—Wil[illegible] percentage which a unio[illegible] need to meet to get [illegible] tation?

Mr Carlisle—I will cons[illegible] The last review of Burn[illegible] implemented only at the [illegible] of 1979 and it was right [illegible] its composition again at t[illegible] ning of the new school yea[illegible]

No bartering on EEC

Each issue between Britain and the EEC must be settled on its merits and it was unlikely that fish could possibly be settled within the same time-scale, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, said during questions.

Mr Donald Stewart, Leader of the Scottish Nationalists (Western Isles, Scot Nat) had said—following her discussions with Chancellor Schmidt, suggestions have been made by Euro-fanatics that the outstanding problems should be settled in one package.

This would cause a great outbreak of rage in the country over the question of sheep meat, fishing, oil and so on. These have to be settled as different issues.

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, [illegible] C)—There is a certain an[illegible] misunderstanding. It d[illegible] mean that a settlement [illegible] particular thing is bartered [illegible] another.

What Chancellor Schmid[illegible] me is the argument tha[illegible] expect the EEC to settle o[illegible] lems in a certain time-sca[illegible] there are certain problem[illegible] other countries have whic[illegible] be expected to be settle[illegible] similar time-scale.

I have always said, and [illegible] sist in saying, that each [illegible] settled on its merits. I [illegible] think, for example, that fis[illegible] possibly be settled in tha[illegible] scale.

Clegg not yet to hand

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science (Brent, North, C) announced during questions that, in spite of press reports, he had been informed at noon today that the report of the Clegg Commission on teachers pay had not yet reached Whitehall.

He continued—I am informed that it will be confidential until printed by HMSO and publi[illegible] a Command Paper. Publica[illegible] expected by April 14-16.

When negotiations take [illegible] after Clegg, the matter goe[illegible] to the Burnham primary, [illegible] ary and further education c[illegible] tee. Local authorities [illegible] employers will have to take [illegible] the effect of the settlem[illegible] their spending and the rate s[illegible] grant.

Britain's defensive weakness

Mr Francis Pym will today unveil his first Defence White Paper to a nation which, in the shadow of the Afghan affair, is probably more concerned by the subject than at any time during the decade that has passed. Reflecting this, it will be, by Whitehall standards, a bumper issue, with a supplement full of statistics to detail the military balance and Britain's contribution to it.

It will confirm, as already announced, a three per cent rise in defence spending during 1980-81, with a defence budget at current prices of more than £10,600m. But there will be no announcement of what will replace Polaris as Britain's strategic deterrent in the 1990s; no decision on whether or not the Army will be allowed to buy the Challenger tank—a Europeanized version of the Shir-2 which was originally designed for the Shah; no disclosure of the bases likely to be chosen for American ground-launched cruise missiles in this country; and no announcement of the Armed Forces pay rise which fell due on April 1.

Those decisions have still to be made. More important however, it is doubtful how far the White Paper will answer those critics who argue from time to time that Britain's defence profile does not stick out far enough in the right places.

The weakness of Britain's defence policy is in a sense its strength. It is not that we do too little, but that we arguably try to do too much. This is largely an accident of our history and geography rather than, the product of any defence philosophy. Indeed the real weakness is perhaps that our defence philosophy is too blurred or that we do not apply it as positively as we should. By trying to cover so many contingencies we end up by covering none of them to everyone's satisfaction—except in our training and discipline, whose standards compare well with those of any other country in the world.

Britain's forces are admirably balanced, and so is our contribution to Nato. We contribute a corps to the alliance's Northern Army Group in West Germany; a navy which is still the largest in Western Europe; an air force which has to defend the largest air space in Nato Europe. The Royal Marines have a commitment to the defence of Nato's Northern Flank in wartime—and, most topically, we support the only Nato-committed strategic deterrent outside the direct control of the United States president.

On top of this Britain has 13,000 soldiers tied down in Northern Ireland, and smaller pockets scattered round the world in Belize, Cyprus, Gibraltar and Hongkong—whose government now pays the lion's share of the cost.

With Britain's economy in, to say the least, an uncertain condition, one is forced to question how long the Government or its successor will be able to sustain all the present effort in defence. This is not an argument for spending less— it is rather an argument for once more examining the priorities in the defence budget and questioning whether Britain should not concentrate its limited resources on a more limited number of areas.

There are, of course, other alternatives, under which for example Nato might shoulder some of the costs of the strategic deterrent through the alliance's infrastructure fund.

The last Defence Review conducted by the Labour Government in 1974-75 degenerated into the usual conflict between the Right and a Left whose attitude to defence has remained sadly negative. There remains a case for another, more positive review of defence needs in Britain which might ensure that we have our priorities right and that our forces have the best equipment available to perform the jobs which matter most.

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Michael Shanks on a possible solution to the present Anglo-French fracas.

The EEC squabble: why Whitehall must change its attitude

The debate on Britain's EEC budget contribution has degenerated into that most depressing of European spectacles, an Anglo-French squabble. It is therefore extremely important that the breathing space afforded by the postponement of the March summit be used by the other EEC members and the European Commission to bring some commonsense into the cross-Channel fracas. It is clear that in both the United Kingdom and French governments there is now a desire for a compromise which will get them off the hook.

To date the argument has gone something like this:

France: How can we take you seriously? You sought entry three times in the 1960s and early 1970s, knowing full well the rules of the Community you were trying to join. After joining in 1973, you had second thoughts and we took the unprecedented step of allowing you to renegotiate the terms. You expressed yourselves well satisfied with the result in 1975. Now you want us to renegotiate all over again. Really, we have more important things to attend to!

Britain: Yes, but things have changed in ways none of us could have predicted. Nobody ever envisaged a situation in which one of the poorest members would become the biggest contributor to the budget. You know we expressed our fears about the growth of spending on the Common Agricultural Policy when we joined, and you and the other member-states went on record as saying that if unacceptable situations arose equitable solutions would have to be found.

France: What you are invoking is the principle of juste retour—the principle that everybody gets out what he puts in. You know very well the Community has rejected that principle on various occasions.

Britain: We are only seeking parity with you, who are a much richer country than we are. The cases you are talking about concerned a time when the richest member-country, West Germany, was the biggest budget contributor. It is reasonable that the Community should transfer resources from richer to poorer, but not the other way.

France: If you are poorer than us, and unable to compete in the EEC, it's entirely your own fault. You should work harder and strike less. In terms of natural resources you're better off than any of us, because you have your own oil. If you want us to help you, why aren't you ready to help us by giving us preferential access to your oil?

Britain: You are introducing a complete red herring into the discussion. We're talking about the budget and correcting a manifest injustice. You know perfectly well this whole issue has arisen simply because the CAP, for which we pay and from which you benefit, has got out of control and is swallowing up far more of the Community's resources than was ever intended.

France: Yes, but you didn't complain about that when you were getting an artificial subsidy from the green pound, did you? You only want the rules changed when it suits you.

Britain: Typical French hypocrisy! Who is breaking the rules of the Community today? Not us, but you! Why are you persisting in illegally blocking sales of our lambs in France?

France: Once again, you want us to help you but you offer nothing in return. You know we have a problem on lamb, because it is excluded from the list of protected products in the CAP. If you were prepared to meet us on that, instead of sticking rigidly to the letter of the law, we might be more sympathetic to your problems.

> 'It is clear that Britain is not going to get her way except as part of a package deal'

And so it goes on.

How is this sterile and undifying squabble to be resolved? It is clear that Britain is not going to get her way except as part of a package deal. We have to be prepared to buy off the French lamb interests by agreeing to some (preferably temporary) subsidy in return for the lifting of the ban on British lamb exports to France. We have to be prepared to discuss some (probably largely cosmetic) modifications to our North Sea policy to make it more *communautaire*—eg, by allowing more drilling rights for EEC oil companies, privileged access to North Sea oil for other EEC countries in the event of another Arab embargo, and so on. We should certainly join the European Monetary System (EMS); and we should try to settle the continuing deadlock over an EEC fisheries policy.

These are the positive cards we could play, as well as the negative one of threatening to block all EEC business until our grievances are met.

If the discussion can be moved into these channels, we need to think of ways in which EEC funds can be channelled in our direction without appearing to do too much violence to the Community's budgetary conventions.

If we do decide to join the EMS, we should immediately qualify for the same kind of aid as was given to Italy and Ireland when they joined. This should be relatively uncontroversial. Projects like the Channel Tunnel, and a possible gas pipeline from the North Sea fields to France and to Ireland, would equally readily attract Community funds while demonstrating Britain's attachment to Europe.

There are also a number of areas where the Community institutions could fill some of the gaps left by the cutback in public spending in the United Kingdom as Mr Nigel Lawson has (somewhat belatedly) recognized.

A recent editorial in *The Guardian* lamented the fact that the United Kingdom joined the European Community at a time when the original impetus for integration was running out of steam. What everybody forgets is that this was perfectly well recognized at the time, in late 1972, and that it was also recognized at the time that the further progress of such integration would not necessarily work to the advantage of the United Kingdom or Ireland (though Ireland in fact has done much better in Europe than most people anticipated).

A whole new dimension of Community policy was put in place to deal with exactly this situation. Programmes to improve the quality of European life, through active policies of social reform, environmental and consumer protection formed one aspect of this new range of policies approved at the EEC summit conference at the end of 1972. The second aspect was a commitment to a planned transfer of resources to the poorer areas of the Community through a regional development fund, an enlarged social fund (for training and retraining purposes) and the so-called "guidance" section of the CAP to cope with the casualties of the declining peasant sector of European agriculture.

Britain expected to be, and indeed has been, a major net beneficiary from these funds. The tragedy has been that the resources committed to the regional and social funds never matched up to the expectations of 1972.

What is required, therefore, both to resolve Britain's problem and, more importantly, to restore the credibility and sense of purpose of Europe's institutions, is to return to the blueprint set out in the summit communiqué of December 1972, and breathe new life into the regional and social funds. It has to be said that this will require a change of attitude in Whitehall as much as in the other EEC capitals. The British attitude to the Community as a means of transferring resources between member-states has always been ambivalent. Eagerness to get money from Brussels has been offset by dislike of Brussels' supranational pretensions.

Today we cannot afford such niceties. If we are going to stay in the Community, and not lose money by so doing, we have to accept the institutions which exist, and use them singlemindedly for our purposes. Other countries—France and Ireland particularly—have done this with consummate success. Once we have established our priorities, there is no reason why we should not do so too.

A disturbing change of style in Syria

Damascus

It was a polite gathering, a discreet combination of Sunni Muslim and Christian businessmen, drinking *marthais* and mixing political gossip with mild jokes about the regime, enjoying the guarded freedom of speech that modest wealth bestows on men in a military dictatorship.

"President Assad says he is going to allow the communists to reopen their newspaper", one man said. "Next week he is bound to tell the Muslim Brothers they can have a paper too. Then in two weeks' time he will close both papers down and claim they are subversive."

There was a murmur of laughter round the provincial drawing room. Hama is a small town, a place where confidences are understood. But one man found nothing humorous in the conversation. "I don't like Assad", he said. "But what is the alternative? We don't want our country to turn into another Iran, governed by fanatics and with no real law or investment. The Muslim Brothers are becoming popular but they have no plan, no programme, no leadership. What can we do?"

The president's recent speeches have gone down badly in Syria. Where once Assad addressed his people in careful, constructive language that avoided insults and rhetoric, he now attacks the state's presumed enemies with anger and bitterness.

Perhaps he is trying to imitate the public style of Gamel Abdul Nasser but he sounds like a man in despair. By vilifying the Muslim Brotherhood he has given them credibility and by his clumsy reaction to the Brotherhood's ruthless assassinations he has sapped his own credibility.

For the first time, too, it is the president himself who is being condemned. A few months ago—even a few weeks ago—his critics claimed that whatever the state of Syria, the president was a man of great personal integrity who rose above those Baath Party disciples who indulged in bribery. But the critics are not so generous now. How, they ask, could an honourable man allow the state's corruption to spread into his own family?

In Syria few people dare utter the name of the man whose flamboyant behaviour has stained Assad's reputation and whose portrait hangs in the cafes of Baalbec, the hashish capital of Lebanon. But to say that the president's brother Rifaat is unpopular would be a gross understatement. Commander of the 20,000-strong Defence Brigades (Syria's best trained and plain clothes praetorian guard), Rifaat has a passion for fast cars, foreign travel and good living that has done incalculable harm.

Hafez Assad has tried to blunt the popular distrust of his government by appointing a new prime minister, Abdul Raouf al-Kassem, a Sunni architect and academic of known probity from an old Damascene family. Kassem was formerly the Damascus lord mayor and established something of a reputation for himself by reorganizing the city's labyrinthine transport system and by cleaning up its streets.

But purging the highways is no substitute for purging the institutions of government. In the past three weeks farmers have reported being stopped by policemen and asked for "contributions" before being allowed to take their produce to the market. A western embassy which asked a state bank for guidance on a trade deal was informed that no such information would be forthcoming unless the embassy was prepared to pay hard cash to a named member of the bank. For some reason never explained, the Syrian businessmen who usually handle foreign trade deals are Alawites, members of the minority sect to which the president belongs.

President Assad: the critics not so generous now.

The Muslim Brotherhood have picked on lea members of the Alawite munity to demonstrate power, revealing at the time a sectarian hatred often eclipses the distaste Sunni Muslims allegedly by Alawites. Gunmen larly assassinate Al businessmen and set bombs outside Baath offices and Baathist youth r ment buildings. The Bro hood have killed those they refer to as Sunni— laborators", youth move organizers and, most-rec Soviet military advisers.

A sheikh was murdered Damascus mosque for ver attacking the Brotherhoo soldier was taken from on the main road to A and coldly shot in the ba the head while the passe looked on.

Killings now go on a daily. It is little wonder President Assad's per bodyguard—a moustac Palestinian named Khaled sein—can be seen standi the very edge of the dent's lectern whenever addresses party members.

Regular troops are of use in Syria's congested t It profits a president no to surround his second gre city with an armoured di although that is just Assad has done at Al where more Syrian tanks now gathered than in a Lebanon.

It is not surprising, t fore, that Syrians fear their future. For As regime, while it is a mi dictatorship, is not as re sive as his enemies would one believe. At the Ba Party congress in January president urged his suppo to be free in their criticis the government, and there few reports of torture none of secret executions less the murder of the E publisher Selim al-Lawzi the work of the Syrian Se Forces, as some Leb claim).

Assad has committed country to an indepe foreign policy that has f resisted American blar ments to join the Camp D plans for a Middle East s ment yet has refused accept Moscow's tuto When the president ord his army into Lebanon 1976—an act which saved sands of lives, whatever political advantages himself—he ignored the demnation of the Soviet U He displays none of the o tic, emotional changes of l that have afflicted Pres Sadat of Egypt.

Indeed, Assad is perhap most consistent leader in Arab world: which is why United States and Eu should be observing domestic crisis with grave cern. Syria, with all her fa is a force for stability in Middle East and many of people—including some Assad's loudest critics— the consequences of his sible overthrow.

If Syria should slip into same abyss of Islamic fa cism and disorder engulfed Iran a year ago, more than the lives of a lion Alawites are going to at stake.

Robert F

Bernard Levin

Adelaide, as an Englishman sees her

Adelaide

I can now reveal that the Englishman I wrote about yesterday, who caused much indignation in this remorselessly respectable city by saying that "Adelaide women have no style" (the line was even incorporated in the topical references added to a production of a play by Goldoni's contemporary and rival, Carlo Gozzi, and was greeted with the traditional groan used by pantomime audiences to signal the arrival of the villain) was the Director of the Festival, Christopher Hunt, or rather, the ex-director, for Mr Hunt will not be returning to present a second one.

Unemployed he may be, repentant he is not. Indeed, he signed off in dashing style on the local television station by calmly telling Adelaide that she is a village inhabited by wax dummies ruled by a few figure-heads, that the atmosphere is provincial, that narrow, conservative attitudes, which are death to the arts, abound, that this is a society designed to perpetuate the mediocre and to obstruct the experimental and the new, that when he came to Adelaide he found tremendous opportunities for innovation but speedily discovered that the forces preventing those opportunities being taken are strong enough (and, it seems, no less willing) to ensure that nothing interesting happens, and for good measure that the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra plays out of tune. In the circumstances, it is perhaps not altogether surprising that Mr Hunt's first Adelaide Festival is also to be his last.

I am myself, as my readers well know, a man who shuns controversy, and I therefore have no intention of Taking Sides (Jonathan Cape, £6.50) for or against Mr Hunt's views, though I could hardly help noticing that when, on the morning after my arrival, I took part in a public discussion of festivals in general, and innocently remarked that it was important for festival directors to have a reasonably long tenure, my words were greeted by what I can only describe as wry applause.

Of course, there never was a festival yet that was not awash with conspiracy, outrage, faction, protest and bitching, and I see no reason why Adelaide should be exempt from this truth. It must, after all, be the very last city on earth in which the parasol is a familiar sight, and the parasol is not normally regarded as a symbol of revolution, even in the arts. Anyway, Mr Hunt has put together a festival that in general follows the pattern of the eclectic ones like Edinburgh rather than the more precisely focused models such as Salzburg, and the range is certainly wide enough to satisfy, at any rate theoretically, everyone except the man who wrote to the local paper with what must surely be the most arcane complaint ever levelled at a festival, viz, that too few of the items in it were suitable for heterosexuals.

The strength of the Adelaide Festival lies, however, less in its contents than in its setting, this may sound as eccentric as the complaint of the gentleman in the previous paragraph, but the unifying force of the Festival Centre is unmistakable. It is designed in what look like two huge angular white cheeses, the larger with a wedge taken out of the middle, and both set in an ample and colourful plaza alive with grass plots, children's playgrounds, stalls, booths, pop-groups, dancers of jigs, exhibitions, puppets, conjurers, poets and a gloomy figure apparently intent upon assuring passers-by that it would be as well to repent, for the end is nigh. One of the stalls sells tin cans full of dust and cobwebs for making your cheapest and rawest wine look like a precious vintage bottle, another provides what may well be the best popcorn in the world, from another you can hire bicycles, though nothing in the centre of Adelaide is far enough from anything else to warrant the extravagance.

The result, however, is that the place is possessed of a truly spontaneous air of festivity, much enhanced by the army of banners with which the streets of the city centre are decorated, all 700 of which were designed and made by volunteers to whom the materials were distributed free on application, one of Mr Hunt's pleasantest notions. (The banner outside the front door of the State Parliament building is advertising the local zoo, for reasons on which it would hardly become me to speculate.) I fear that the bar with a price-list containing the rubric "ten cents extra with effervescence" can hardly have been doing much business.

It is of interest that despite the ubiquitously evident Australian cultural inferiority complex, and for that matter despite the depressingly uniform ugliness and dullness of the skyscrapers, the design of the Festival Centre was entrusted to a local firm of architects, Hassall and Partners, who had never built a theatre before, and in building three in this centre fully justified the city's trust.

The dazzling whiteness of the exterior is contrasted with the brown-tinted glass that separates the sloping shell from the ground like a row of teeth, and the main auditorium, a 2,000-seater that can be used as opera-house, theatre or concert-hall (though for concerts they idiotically put the orchestra not in the pit but on the stage, where the players are stifled behind a rigid proscenium — for all I heard of the Warsaw Philharmonic's woodwind they might as well have stayed at home) is finished in warm, dark wood, the shape offering a hint of our Festival Hall and of Chichester, the seats are faultlessly sprung, and even allow a visitor to bring his knees with him, a phenomenon sufficiently rare these days to be worth remarking. Outside, the combination of balconies, grass, and water sparkling in the sunshine is reminiscent both of our Stratford and of Canada's. I have promised to bring them a dozen swans on my next visit.

Despite the net rumour I wrote about yesterday, there are no sumptuary regulations, or even conventions, in the festival venues, the informality of attire being another of the principal planks in Mr Hunt's platform, though few carry it as far as the patron in the front row of the dress circle who arrived for the concert in shorts and T-shirt, and then proceeded to remove his shoes and socks, the better to wiggle his toes in time to the music. The general opinion around me was that he must have come from Brisbane. Even more uninhibited was the behaviour of the lady at the performance, in the cathedral, of Rossini's Petite Messe Solenelle. At first she sat on the floor at the altar end of the nave, twitching in a decidedly peculiar manner, and then, perhaps set in motion by the irresistibly unliturgical sparkle of the music, climbed on to the podium and began to give the musicians an alternative, and very far from regular beat. The official conductor, Mr Meyer Fredman, remained outwardly calm, but he displayed considerable relief when, at the end of *Gloria*, she was led quietly away by an attendant.

You must admit that we do not get that sort of thing in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, or even at Wexford. But there is a lot more about Adelaide that is not to be found nearer home. As I have said, it is not for so transient a visitor as myself to adjudicate on Christopher Hunt's charges against the city. Yet whatever his differences with the Festival's management, sponsors and patrons, and whatever compromises these difficulties have obliged him to make his admirable labours have undoubtedly been made more toilsome, as he readily concedes, by one extra and insurmountable handicap. And it is that immovable object, which no Festival Director in Adelaide can shift, however much of an irresistible force he may be, which will provide my concluding theme.

To be concluded

LONDON DIARY

Secrets of the author and the actress

A discovery of papers relating to the secret life of Charles Dickens—found, in the best literary tradition, hidden in an old piece of furniture—has thrown new light into the shady corner of the author's relationship with a young actress, Ellen Ternan.

Rumours that Dickens took a mistress after separating from his wife in 1858, 12 years before his death, were lent credence in the controversial book *Dickens and Daughter*, written in 1939 by Gladys Storey, a friend of Dickens's second daughter, Kate Perugini. But the book, apparently based mainly on hearsay, was always regarded with suspicion by scholars.

Two years ago Miss Storey died, and her house was searched for interesting papers by her executor, without success. Recently removal men arrived to dispose of her effects, and a large bundle of papers and diaries tumbled from the back of a wardrobe. The remover's wife gave them to the Dickens Museum in London.

Dr David Parker, the museum curator, has sifted through the papers to discover, among other titbits, a note that Dickens kept a house for Ellen Ternan at Peckham, with two servants. There is also a record of a conversation with the novelist's son, Sir Henry Dickens, in which he reveals that the illicit relationship produced a son, who died in infancy.

Miss Storey's papers, containing much material she did not incorporate in her book, also illuminate the strained relationship between Dickens, daughter Kate, and the real Mrs Dickens after the separation. "For nearly two years C. D. would scarcely speak to K. P. because she visited her mother", says one note.

Indeed it was daughter Kate who wanted Miss Storey to write her book in the first place, to vindicate her mother, against whom Charles said a lot of very wicked things. Dr Parker believes the new find, now available at the Dickens Museum, will be of great interest to scholars. But he admits that, in the field of relationships with young actresses, people do not make a habit of telling the truth.

Bill Warhurst

When Henry VIII took over Hampton Court Palace from Cardinal Wolsey, one of his first alterations was to double the size of the kitchens to satisfy his gargantuan appetite for food and feasting. Today, after a £50,000 restoration, the palace's sixteenth century kitchen block is being opened in its entirety to public view for the first time.

The vast kitchen hall has not rustled up a royal snack since George IV's time, and since the Victorian era part of it has been subdivided to form living accommodation, one of 62 grace-and-favour residences at Hampton Court in the Queen's gift. Now all has been stripped away, leaving the shell of the building in something near its original state.

The last resident was Lady Baden-Powell, who moved out seven years ago. Her rooms were hardly a model of comfort and convenience: her bathroom was in one of the huge fireplaces, and she bathed directly beneath an enormous open chimney flue (see "before" and "after" pictures above). Her only means of access, without going through the public areas, was along the catwalk of an adjoining roof and through a window.

Sadly, none of the kitchen of Henry's time survives and the whole place looks rather bare, especially after its fresh coat of limewash. But a permanent exhibition of how Tudor kitchens operated is planned for the future.

Restoration did, however, uncover a small piece of Elizabethan graffiti on a wall: an unflattering, schoolboyish drawing of a fat face under a floppy hat. I'll bet the cook had just had a roasting for over-doing the venison.

Marriage test?

English couples get married far too cheaply, according to Canon A. C. A. Smith, vicar of Selby Abbey, writing in the current issue of the Abbey's journal. At a mere £4.80 for having the banns read in two parishes, and £1.25 for a certificate to satisfy the Registrar-General, the Church of England is missing out on a potentially handsome source of revenue.

Parish funds, not to mention vicars' stipends, would be greatly enhanced under the canon's alternative plan, which is for a £20 marriage licence, renewable annually. If men are prepared to pay £34 a year for a colour television, and £60 for a car, they ought not to begrudge £20 for a wife, considering the amount of work that wives do for nothing.

In the interests of equity, the vicar states, during leap years the wife should have the option to renew the licence. At least he stops short of suggesting that before a new licence is issued, the wife should be taken to a ministry-approve testing station for inspection.

Over the wire

My recent report, elsewhere in this newspaper, of the Colditz prisoner-of-war reunion, has led me to a man who must be one of the few survivors of the First World War equivalent, the hated "straff" (punishment) camp of Holzminden, near Hanover.

Dr Vernon Bailey, a retired surgeon who lives in the Yorkshire Dales near Richmond, recalls it as an evil place from which no one ever made a successful escape, run by a tyrannical commandant, a German-American from Milwaukee whose proudest boast was that he had made his way unnoticed through England at the height of hostilities in 1915.

Dr Bailey, who was capt at St Quentin in March, 1 recalls sharing a room wit captain who recited Molièr relieve the boredom.

Besides holding the Mili Cross, Dr Bailey has anot much more unique, distinct which helps to explain why is among the very few of 750 officers and 350 other ra incarcerated at Holzminden alive; he was made a sec lieutenant at the age of 16, a record which has no been equalled in the Bri Army.

The modern equivalent Holzminden and Colditz is office of *The Times*, wh loudspeakers in every ro broadcast ear-splitting fi alarms with monotonous re larity every time the fire syst goes wrong. Stuffing speakers with old copies of *Daily Telegraph* makes li difference, and a travell committee is being formed.

An estate agent in [illegible] currently advertising a [illegible] as "deceptively spacious", he really admitting that [illegible] that imposing semi-detach facade lies a suite of [illegible] suitable for habitation only [illegible] the stunted offspring of family of garden gnomes? I suspect that, as usual, [illegible] being deceptively optimistic.

Alan Ham[illegible]

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

UNNECESSARY STRIKE

...of the steel strike most significant success ...Government has had in ...estic field since it took ...It is a success achieved ...esolute refusal to act. ...f its significance lies in ...v fact. The central politi...ue in the strike was ...a Government which had ...roclaimed its devotion to ...osophy of the cash limit, ...ed on that in its appeal ...electorate, would be able ...to what it had said when ...y challenged. This politi...ension was very much in ...ds both of the strikers ...some of their backers in ...our movement. Mr Sirs ...xpressed it forthrightly ...to tempt Lord Denning ...ose that the action was, ...not a trade dispute at all, ...rned out that the Govern...uld stand by what it had ...

...mportant to be clear just ...eneral lessons can be ...rom this, and what can... ...1974 there has been ...that a convention would ...itself in British political ...a Government could not ...an all-out challenge by ...union. The steel strike ...ie some way towards ...ng the balance. But the ...hould not be interpreted ...r side as a crude victory ...ustrial machismo. The ...the industry and the ...has been too great for that. The Government stood aloof to allow the economic fact to impress itself that pay increases must be paid for. In the private sector the market ultimately enforces the truth of that. In the public sector, and in the short term, the truth is much less clear cut and depends on the willingness of Governments to behave as if it were true. Other unions in the public sector will take account of the steel strike when assessing their own chances of getting away with more than productivity or cash limits allow for.

Of course they will not assume that things would go exactly the same way for them as for the steelmen. It was obvious from the first that the strike would be a difficult one to win: the uncompetitive position of the industry was too glaring, its monopoly status too diluted, and its products, unlike water or electricity, would not instantly be missed by the public. Others may be in a stronger position. But they will not, as they might have done before, expect to win almost as a matter of course.

The Government's economic strategy depends on changing people's expectations. The experience of its first year has shown how deeply ingrained these can be, and how slowly the assumption fades that everyone has a right to pay increases at least parallel to the rise in the cost of living. The steel settlement may seem cheap at 16 per cent, but that is only because settlements elsewhere are still running at the unsustainable rate of about 20 per cent. The public has not yet faced the painful truths about production and rewards that the steelmen have now discovered.

Each striker, on average, has sacrificed some £700 in wages to secure a pay increase of about £150. The gains made since the early days of the strike have scarcely offset the price inflation day by day over the same period. Even if they had won the 20 per cent they sought, they would still have been badly out of pocket over the strike. Every worker contemplating strike action should make calculations such as these and draw the conclusions, and make sure that his leaders do so on his behalf.

The tragedy of the steel strike is that it could so easily have been avoided by a little more imagination on both sides. The harm that any bitter strike does to labour relations in its industry lingers long after the formal settlement. Steel manufacturing faces drastic cuts in manpower and capacity if it is ever to approach the efficiency of its competitors abroad; these cuts ought to be negotiated in a spirit of trust and good will that will not easily be restored now. Both unions and management were fatally confused in their objectives and out of their depth; in the industry itself, the history of the dispute gives no grounds for jubilation to either side.

...V MUCH TAPPING IN THE DARK?

...een widely suspected that ...e tapping is now prac... ...a much more extensive ...an it was at the time of ...comprehensive inquiry ...Birkett Committee in ...lerious crime has in... ...terrorism and other ...to security are more ...ead, and the technology ...rcepting telephone calls ...proved. So both the ...and the capacity for in...nate, or at least less ...nating, telephone tapping ...ch greater. But the ...Paper published yester...rgely reassuring in terms ...ers and procedures.

...mount of telephone tap...as certainly increased ...ntly. The Home Secre...proved 411 warrants last ...npared with 129 in 1958, ...number approved by the ...y of State for Scotland ...m three to fifty-six. But ...not an extravagant ...in all the circumstances ...much less than many ...had suspected. One ...eel still more confidence ...udgment if these figures ...en broken down into ...ions from the police, ...and Excise, and the ...Service; and it is hard to believe that effective operations would thereby have been jeopardized.

A number of fears should be removed by the procedures outlined in the White Paper. "As a general rule", it states, "each warrant names only one person and one address or telephone number". In other words, there are no general approvals for people in a particular category. There is a time limit of two months on each warrant, with the period for which it can be renewed being specified for each category. In no instance is it unreasonably long. The rules as laid down should also provide sufficient reassurance that neither a copy of a tape nor a transcript is ever made available to anybody but the organization for whom the warrant has been granted. The one point on which further information would be desirable would be how many warrants are renewed. It may not be necessary to give precise figures so long as it is apparent whether a high proportion of warrants are renewals of long duration. That information could hardly be of assistance to criminals and terrorists.

Altogether, though, the Home Secretary was justified in announcing to the House of Commons yesterday that he would not make any change in existing procedures at this stage beyond appointing a senior judge as an independent watchdog. Much will depend, however, upon two factors: who the judge will be and how much of his reports will normally be disclosed. Mr Whitelaw said yesterday that the first report would be published, but that subsequently only findings of a general nature and any changes in arrangements would be made known to Parliament. This form of limited disclosure is not in itself unreasonable. There cannot be fully open government where security and operations against serious crime are concerned. But if confidence is to be maintained that makes it all the more necessary to be precise about the limits to disclosure. What exactly are "findings of a general nature", and who will determine what comes into that category—the judge or the Home Secretary? Either the specification needs to be made much clearer or it must be laid down that the judge himself is to decide what part of his reports should be given to Parliament.

...TAIN'S DECLINING POSTAL SERVICE

...st Office has always been ...to the point of evasion ...its problems. Instead of ...rily baring its chest it ...ntil outside investigating ...and there has been a ...ccession of them—prise ...a horrors of declining ...ds of service. Until very ...y it has regarded users' ...ntatives such as the Post ...Users' National Council as ...ather than as potential ...with whom to share a ...n cause.

...of the trouble is that the ...postal service is attempt...perate to higher standards ...ny other postal service in ...orld. Its service is more ...hensive and aims to be ...er, taking the country as ...e, than elsewhere. In spite ...a recent increases its ...compare fairly ...ably. It is from these high ...rds that performance has ...The question now is ...er the standards will have ...dropped further or whether ...an be maintained either by ...stomers, who include the ...as well as individuals, pay...ore, or by nationalization.

...first requirement is for a ...r dialogue with customers. ...must know what they can reasonably expect for their money. It seems incredible that regular and detailed performance figures are not being published already. Financial controls, given that the service is a statutory monopoly and that prices can be manipulated at will, are not enough.

Next there will have to be a radical change in the willingness of postal managers and staff to work together. One of the most salutory lessons to be learnt from the Monopolies Commission's criticisms is that they have all been made before. The same recurrent themes emerged both from the Hardman Committee in 1971 and the Carter Review Committee in 1977. These were that management and unions should agree on a comprehensive programme of productivity measures involving work measurement, rearrangement of working practices, reduction of excessive overtime and introduction of local productivity agreements, and that mechanization should be accelerated. The fact that very little improvement followed indicates the ability of the postal business to resist change. In the face of such apathy, mere customers stand little chance of making their voices heard, let alone of having any impact.

The new legislation being drafted to split the telecommunications service from the postal business provides a new opportunity to impose changes from the outside. At the same time there are pressures for reorganization from within. Union leaders as well as senior managers have accepted the need to change. But they still have to get the message to the men who actually do the work. An example of just how difficult this task is likely to be was the recent rejection by a Union of Post Office Workers delegate conference of a staffing and productivity deal intended to prevent a repetition of the near-breakdown in the postal service which occurred last summer.

However, a combined pay and staffing package is now being put to a ballot of members, and there has been a declaration of intent by management to take on whatever casual staff are needed to see the mail through this summer, even if it means confronting the unions, so there is some hope of movement. The alternative is a gradual withering away of customers, and the continuing decline of the service.

...flict land

Mr R. Bailey and others

...the subject of derelict land ...has recently been raised in ...olumns, may we draw to the ...on of your readers two ...s that we are hoping to get ...ed in the Local Government ...ng and Land (No 2) Bill and ...go some way to alleviating ...oblem.

...first concerns an amendment ...t X of the Bill. As proposed ...moment part X will give the ...ary of State the power to ...a public body to dispose of ...is vacant land. This is clearly ...quate: the public body con...d may well make representa...o the Secretary of State, as it ...mitted to do, claiming that the ...although vacant, is desperately ...d in five or ten years' time and ...ould not be disposed of. In ...case the Secretary of State's ...will be tied—and the land ...emain derelict.

...amendment therefore gives ...ecretary of State the power in ...cases to direct the public ...to take all possible steps to ...e that in the interim period ...and is put to beneficial com...ty use, either by themselves ...being leased or licensed to ...bodies, rather than being left ...it.

...e second amendment concerns ...ling consent. At present, ...ise demolition is not subject to planning control, developers often try to usurp the function of local planning authorities by demolishing existing buildings before applying for planning permission to redevelop. The result is that the planning authority must either consent to a redevelopment proposal that may be totally inappropriate, or, by refusing consent, see the site remains vacant for years.

Our amendment, therefore, seeks to avoid this by making demolition subject to planning consent.

May we ask your readers both to urge the Government to accept these proposals and to send to us any examples of the practice of demolishing buildings in advance of planning permission (or inquiries) as described above.

Yours sincerely,
RON BAILEY,
MARY EVANS,
HUGH LANNING,
DAVID HALL,
Housing Emergency Office,
157 Waterloo Road, SE1.

Drugs for mentally ill

From Dr E. Moran

Sir, In recent years great strides have been made in improving the services for the mentally ill. This has been made possible by the use of modern treatments especially drug medication as well as community care facilities based on social services. These developments have made it possible to treat most mental illness on a domiciliary basis.

As a result of recent cut-backs in local authority spending, these essential social services have already been drastically curtailed. The Chancellor's budget proposals will undoubtedly produce a further reduction. Under these circumstances the increased prescription charges will have a particularly damaging effect since the drugs prescribed for the treatment of mental illness are not subject to the much publicized exemptions. This is especially so since many of the drugs used in the more severe forms of mental illness often need to be taken for long periods of time.

The greater difficulty that the mentally ill will experience in obtaining the treatment they require, will undoubtedly result in more of them being admitted to hospital and staying there for longer periods.

Apart from the implications about our sense of values, this approach ultimately will be more expensive.

Yours faithfully,
E. MORAN,
Senior Consultant Psychiatrist,
Enfield District Hospital,
Chace Wing,
The Ridgeway,
Enfield,
Middlesex.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The threat from nuclear arms

From Lord Brockway and others

Sir, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson (March 31) has not appreciated that it is the World Disarmament Campaign which is organising the national convention on April 12 to which the advertisement reproducing Lord Mountbatten's speech relates (*The Times*, page 9, March 28). This campaign is supported by some 170 different organisations which, while their views on the methods of achieving disarmament may vary, are all united in seeking to implement the policy set out in the Final Document of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament in May, June, 1978.

The Campaign is being launched at the convention in the Central Hall, Westminster, under the chairmanship of Lord Gardiner, former Lord Chancellor. Its purpose is to mobilise suport for the policy to which 149 governments unanimously agreed in this final document of the special session.

That policy was to achieve, by appropriate stages, the general and complete disarmament of all nations under strict and effective international control, together with the re-allocation of the resources so released to world development, that is to say, to the ending of world poverty and for the promotion of social justice and human welfare in all countries, developed and developing.

The present British Government has committed itself to the achievement of this policy as the "ultimate objective". Our campaign aims at achieving this before nuclear war takes place.

The final document of the special session urges that this objective will not be achieved unless world public opinion is mobilised and strongly expressed in its support.

All nations now face a clear choice: shall they drift on in the arms race, with the danger that it may lead to the final nuclear war; or, while there is still time, shall they transform our world society by using our wealth through world cooperation for welfare and happiness?

As the Brandt report makes plain, this is a global problem, for which global decisions are required. But Britain can lead in forming the necessary opinion and arousing the necessary popular support.

We are convinced that the overwhelming majority of the British people, of all parties, and of none, including Sir William Dickson, will choose the transformation of world society from warfare to welfare.

Yours faithfully,
FENNER BROCKWAY,
Co-chairman,
BRUCE OF DONINGTON,
Treasurer,
PHILIP NOEL-BAKER,
Co-chairman.
House of Lords.
April 1.

Tower opposite the Tate

From Sir Bernard Braine, MP for Essex, South-East (Conservative)

Sir, In January you reported a startling proposal to erect a 500 foot sky-slab on London's South Bank which would completely change our capital city's skyline and ruin it for all time. Your leading article of January 23, roundly condemning this monstrous speculative development, was welcomed by a number of persons eminent in public life. Since then there has been complete silence.

There are two very strong objections to this ill-conceived proposal. First, it would be followed, and is intended to be followed, by similar sky-slabs which would dominate the heart of London and vulgarize it by reducing its familiar and historic buildings to the scale of Toytown. That is why it must be stopped now, before the trend becomes irreversible.

Second, as you rightly pointed out in your leading article, there is no case whatsoever for such a massive increase in office space in Inner London at a time when high and rising transport costs are causing more and more people to seek work in the suburbs and farther afield.

What is needed are more homes so that people can be persuaded to stay and work in our inner cities. As Thucydides reminded us long ago: "It is not walls, or ships devoid of crews, but men who make the city."

Leading figures in the cultural world have already condemned the proposed development as "an act of cultural barbarism unbecoming to a civilized nation". Splendid words, but how many people have heard them?

Is it too late for you, Sir, to awaken the ordinary people of London to what is being done to their environment?

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD BRAINE,
House of Commons.
March 27.

Getting organized

From Mrs V. Raymond

Sir, While ironing my husband's copy of *The Times* at 6 o'clock this morning (he does so hate that awkward crease in the middle), I happened to glance at Mr Roy Hay's gardening column in which, after a long list of equipment, he suggests to his readers that "perhaps your wife or secretary could lay in the necessary supplies before the holiday".

Well, I know it is hardly my place to question such things, but what with all the fuss and bother of looking after our menfolk, we wives and secretaries have enough trouble just keeping up with our normal duties without having these extra tasks sprung on us at such short notice. If Mr Hay is thinking of doing this again, I wonder if it would not be too much trouble to give us a little advance warning, perhaps by inserting a piece in *Woman's Own* or a short announcement on "Woman's Hour"? We would be ever so grateful.

Yours faithfully,
VERONICA RAYMOND,
34 Harberton Road, N19.
March 30.

Health risks from lead

From Lord Ashby, FRS

Sir, You write in your leader (March 29) that the report on *Lead and Health* "will not satisfy either side". This is a disquieting statement. Scientific research is not done to satisfy pressure groups; it is done to ascertain the truth so far as that is possible. When the public take sides on a highly emotive issue, truth is the first casualty. Thanks to the courage of Professor Lawther and other scientific workers, willing to publish the truth as they see it, the Government now knows more about lead and health than it ever has before.

The thanks these scientific workers get for telling the truth is to be branded as "complacent", to be accused of making a "cover-up", of producing a "political document" and (*The Times*, March 31) of "defending outmoded concepts". If integrity in reporting scientific work is an outmoded concept, it's a poor prospect for Britain.

Careful work published by the Department of the Environment, the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, and now the Medical Research Council, demonstrates (i) that lead levels in some places are too close to danger level to be tolerated; (ii) that the greatest risk to children from lead comes from water supplies in lead pipes and from paint; (iii) that lead from car exhausts contributes to lead in the atmosphere but is by no means the most dangerous source. These facts are not disputed by anyone who has taken the trouble to read the evidence. They are essential for the political decision the Government has to make. Pressure groups are free, of course, to use the facts: but not to distort them, to lie about them, or to impugn the integrity of the scientists who established them.

Since anyone who writes about lead levels is under suspicion of being on one "side" or the other, I had better add that I am a pensioner; I have no interests in the oil lobby or the transport lobby; I use a bicycle; and if I were asked how best to protect children from automobiles, I would suggest that the money saved by not taking lead out of petrol should be spent on doing something to prevent some 4,000 pedestrian children under 10 being killed or seriously injured on the roads of Britain every year.

Yours faithfully,
ASHBY,
House of Lords.

Southend East by-election

From Mr F. R. D. Paveley

Sir, I was most sorry to see that your editorial of March 15 and accompanying article implied that Teddy Taylor was "foisted" upon Southend East Conservative Association, for nothing could be further from the truth.

When we were first confronted with the task of finding a successor to Sir Stephen McAdden, we resolved then that anybody who attempted to tell us whom we should have as a candidate would get short shrift. In the event nobody, absolutely nobody at any level in the Conservative Party, whether in Parliament, Central Office or Area attempted to influence our choice of candidate, in any way whatsoever.

Teddy Taylor was *our* choice, and was chosen from among some 320 applicants. Firstly, a selection committee of twelve prepared a short-list of twenty-three applicants (which included all local candidates) who were interviewed over a full weekend. Of these, six were interviewed the following week by the larger Finance and General Purposes Committee, who chose three applicants to be interviewed by the full Executive Committee. Mr Taylor was chosen and then next presented to the association who unanimously adopted him as parliamentary candidate. In all, Mr [illegible] from interviews and he was ultimately chosen, firstly because of his reputation as a constituency MP, which is unrivalled, and secondly because of his track record as a parliamentarian. His reputation among his previous constituents was so high that a number of them came all the way from Cathcart to help us [illegible] the by-election at their own expense. Cathcart Conservative [illegible] a substantial sum [illegible] expenses, which is further testimony to the affection they have for their ex-MP.

During the past few weeks Teddy Taylor has had a lot to endure; he has been smeared and vilified in a quite shameless way, but this outstanding man will rise above it, and will without doubt build up as strong a personal following here in Southend, as he had in Cathcart.

Yours faithfully,
F. R. D. PAVELEY,
Chairman,
Constituency Political Committee,
Southend East Conservative Association,
16 Nelson Street,
Southend-on-Sea,
Essex.
March 19.

Victims of Everest

From Sir Jack Longland

Sir, Recent letters to *The Times* and the interview (March 24) with the only surviving member of the 1924 expedition, Captain Noel, have obscured the apparent fact that not one but two bodies were found by various Chinese expeditions on the north side of Everest, the only route permitted and attempted before the war.

There is no question that the body discovered by Charles Warren in 1935, and apparently rediscovered by a Chinese party near the much frequented Camp III at 21,000 feet, was that of the solitary climber Maurice Wilson who died near there in 1934. But that was found not on the mountain at all, but on its upper glacier approaches. As both Warren and Noel have inferred, this cannot possibly be the body of either Mallory or Irvine.

The new factor is the report that a Chinese climber, now dead, came across a body on the north face of Everest itself, at well over 26,000 feet, and in the direct fall-line some 500 feet below the ice axe found by Wyn Harris during our 1933 expedition. Nearly all climbers agree that the ice axe, lying on rock slabs just below the great east ridge, marks the spot from which Mallory and Irvine began a fatal fall. Of living English climbers, only Noel Odell, Peter Lloyd and I know that part of the mountain from first-hand experience.

If a Chinese climber found a body on the north face 500 feet below the dropped ice axe, this conflicts with the accepted view that the fall of Mallory and Irvine ended some 8,000 feet lower on the main Rongbuk glacier. But I have been studying again the very fine telephoto, taken by Captain Noel himself from Base Camp. (See the book *Everest, 1933*, p 108.) This shows clearly that, running diagonally downwards from east to west, and around 500 feet below the dropped ice axe, there is the only gently angled snow slope on the whole north face. It seems to be topped by a horizontal ridge of snow, behind which falling objects might lodge. It is also interspersed with rocks and boulders, which might have caught a body. This year's Japanese expedition to the north face may clear up the mystery, since boots, clothing or equipment could readily be identified.

I share the views expressed by Lord Hunt and others of your correspondents that, if they do find a body, they will leave it in lonely peace. But it is rarely wrong to try to establish facts.

Yours faithfully,
JACK LONGLAND,
Bridgeway,
Bakewell,
Derbyshire.
March 24.

Human rights in Britain

From Professor J. W. Bruegel

Sir, Mr Fred Silvester, MP, makes some amazing statements in his article on human rights (March 17). Twice he calls the European Convention on Human Rights "anti-democratic" without even trying to prove it. According to him "the whole development has occurred without any form of democratic approval"—all member states of the Council of Europe which ratified the Convention have done so in accordance with their constitutional requirements. It is incorrect that the Convention depends on "self-appointed or nominated bodies"—neither the members of the European Commission nor the judges of the European Court of Human Rights are self-appointed. It is incorrect to say that "any citizen, via the commission, may appeal to the court".

That the right of property was "drafted at a time of a Labour government in Britain" is irrelevant, as 15 countries adopted the Additional Protocol, embodying that right; Britain's approval was given by a Conservative government, and Britain's signature was given by Anthony Eden on March 20, 1952. Article 1 of that protocol does not permit nationalization "perhaps even . . . without compensation" but says simply that "no one shall be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided for by law and by the general principles of international law". Mr Silvester's strangest statement says that "the court has power to decide whether a government should declare a state of emergency". The European Court of Human Rights has no such power.

Mr Silvester complains that the founding fathers of the convention—such dangerous lefties like Robert Schuman and Adenauer—"were not isolated from mundane political influences" but obviously does not detect mundane political influences in his own declaration that Conservatives see a "rights" court as a "protection against the increasing encroachment of socialism".

Yours faithfully,
J. W. BRUEGEL,
21 Connaught Drive, NW11.

Protection of souls

From Miss Annie Manuel

Sir, Mr K. P. Frampton is treading dangerous ground in his letter of March 24, in suggesting that a select committee on "cults" be set up.

His use of the word "cult" implies a prejudice as cult has come to have a derisory meaning, ie that of something obsessional, esoteric and obscurantist. Many of the so-called cults, although unfamiliar, give a new slant to spirituality and are sane, rational new religions. In a free society new religions should be allowed to grow and we cannot develop into a society where only certain approved religions, philosophies or thoughts are given legal status while the others are denied these privileges. If distinctions are to be drawn between religions, some being approved, others not, then how are these distinctions to be made and by whom?

The well-being of our country depends on religious freedom and tolerance. Mr Frampton's suggested select committee could lead to a situation where we have an inquisition deciding on the supposed merits or otherwise of religious groups.

Yours faithfully,
ANNIE MANUEL,
78 Bruce Road,
Bow, E3.

Symptoms of decline

From Dr H. D. Isaacs

Sir, Shaikh Mubarak's critical letter (March 25) deserves Mrs Rossiter's acid reply (March 28). But where do such polemics lead us to? It is appropriate for both to turn to the Old Testament and seek conciliation in Malachi II, 10: "Have we not all one father? Hath not one God created us?" . . .

Yours faithfully,
H. D. ISAACS,
1455 Ashton Old Road,
Manchester.
March 28.

Assassination in Central America

From Mr C. G. E. Berry

Sir, As you rightly point out (leading article, March 26), the assassination of the Archbishop of San Salvador, Mgr Oscar Romero, will not of itself reduce the internal pressures for the much-needed massive reform of the Salvadoran economic and political structures. However, one should not underestimate the effects of the tactic of selectively picking-off leading moderate or left-wing figures that has frequently been adopted by the right wing in various countries in Central America.

In Nicaragua, the murder of Chamorro, one of the principal opponents of the Somoza régime, to some extent provoked an intensification of the left's armed struggle, leading to civil war and the Sandinists' final victory in that country. Similarly, Mgr Romero's death may lead to an even bloodier dénouement in El Salvador. On the other hand, in Guatemala similar right-wing tactics of discriminately murdering leading centre and left-wing figures, together with more indiscriminate but less-publicised mass slaughter, has deprived the opposition of many of its internationally better-known spokesmen. The result has been that the intense and bloody struggle in Guatemala—probably at least as bitter as that in El Salvador—has received much less international attention because of the disappearance of the more articulate participants in it.

While one fervently hopes that Mgr Romero's murder will not hasten a fratricidal civil war in El Salvador, neither must the other possible outcome be allowed. The international community must not be permitted to forget the plight of the majority in El Salvador now that one of its most effective spokesmen has been silenced. The pressure of international public opinion has had some effects in promoting reforms in El Salvador; such pressure must be maintained if Mgr Romero's death is not to have been in vain.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. E. BERRY,
2 Waverley Avenue,
Helensburgh,
Dunbartonshire.
March 27.

Role of divorce law

From Mrs Jane Cooper

Sir, It was with relief that I read Mr Bradley's letter (March 27) on divorce legislation.

The articles and letters published by you so far on this subject seem to have failed to recognize the impossibility of trying to use the legal system to resolve emotional conflict. I would suggest that this greatly contributes to the current dissatisfaction with divorce law.

I would be interested to know the results of any research into the number of solicitors who give serious consideration with their clients to conciliation, as envisaged in the Divorce Reform Act. In my experience it is a very small percentage.

Whether no-fault divorce is what we want or not, it is rarely how the parties involved see their situation at the time of divorce. Surely counselling is the relevant skill for resolving emotional battles, and legal knowledge for apportioning legal rights.

When we acknowledge and provide for these two elements, we may have a more generally acceptable system for divorce.

Yours faithfully,
JANE COOPER,
Dalton's Farm,
Rolney,
Sussex.
March 28.

Aims of the Palestinians

From Mr R. Swann

Sir, Mr William Frankel (March 13) and I obviously know very different French Jews. My friends naturally feel concern for their fellow-Jews in the Middle East but few feel as much sympathy for Israeli intransigence; most, in fact, would like to see the Palestinians exercise the right of self-determination just as the Jews claimed to be doing when they set up the state of Israel.

The vast majority of French Jews are not associated with the organizations which claim to speak for them. On the contrary they are worried that Jews in general may be held in some way responsible for the criminal follies of the Begin administration which may indeed have disastrous consequences for France, as indeed for all of us in Western Europe.

Does it not occur to Mr Frankel that if the newspaper and television attitude to Israel has changed from sympathy to exasperation (not "hostility") this is because it is Israel that is more and more seen as the obstacle to peace?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT SWANN,
8 Rue des Volontaires,
Paris 75015.

Irish voting rights

From Mr R. A. Meredith

Sir, In reply to Mr Edward Gardner's question in *The Times* today (March 25).

First, I like the principle of no taxation without representation and therefore see no reason why foreigners who live and work here should not vote.

Second, I like anomalies which temper logic before it leads to intolerance.

Third, I like the Irish.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH A. MEREDITH,
3 Sudeley Street, N1.
March 25.

Ill tidings

From Mr H. T. Lovett-Turner

Sir, Was it not apt that His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury was enthroned on a Tuesday whereas our bringer of woe, the Chancellor, was obliged to defer his Budget until Wednesday?

"Tuesday's child is full of grace
Wednesday's child is full of woe."

Yours faithfully,
H. T. LOVETT-TURNER,
58 Harvard Road,
Chiswick, W4.

COURT CIRCULAR

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 1: *The Duke of Kent*, Honorary President of the Royal Geographical Society, this morning opened the "From Pole to Pole" Exhibition at the Geological Museum and the "Patterns of Diversity" Exhibition at the British Museum (Natural History), as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Society.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard *Buckley, RN, was in attendance.*

The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today received Lieutenant-Colonel John Rigby, upon relinquishing command of the 3rd Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Geoffrey Youll on assuming command. His Royal Highness received Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Scott upon relinquishing command of *the 6th Battalion and Lieutenant-*Colonel Gordon Miller on assuming command.

Birthdays today

Mr Jack Brabham, 54; Sir Paul Chambers, 76; Professor A. C. Dornhorst, 65; Mr Leslie Farrer-Brown, 76; Miss Catherine Gaskin, 51; Major-General Sir Stuart Greeves, 83; Sir Alec Guinness, 66; Sir Denis Rooke, 56; Lord Segal, 78; Mr Kenneth Tynan, 53.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy, will be present on May 29 at "La Nuit de Mai", a gala ball in aid of the Centre Charles Peguy Youth Club, at the residence of the French Ambassador and Mme Jean Sauvagnargues. Mme Valery Giscard d'Estaing is the patron of the ball.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Earl of Halifax will be held at 11.30 am, on Wednesday, April 23, in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks.

The Duke of Kent, patron of the Institute of Export, will attend *the 1980 Export Lunch* at the Portman Intercontinental Hotel, London, on April 30.

The Duchess of Kent, as president of the Royal Northern College of Music, will attend the semi-finals of the Young Musicians of the Year at the college in Manchester on April 10.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron of the Leeds *International Pianoforte* Competition, will attend a banquet for the Federation of International Music Competitions at the Civic Hall, Leeds, on April 18.

Princess Alexandra will be present at a gala performance of the film, *My Brilliant Career*, in aid of the British Red Cross Society, of which she is vice-president, at the Regent Cinema, Penrith, Cumbria, on May 16.

Godolphin School, Salisbury

The Godolphin Scholarship has been awarded to Emmeline Rogers, of Windlesham House School.

Marriages

Mr B. Crowther
and Mrs S. Vincent Brazier
The marriage took place on Saturday, March 29, 1980, in Barnet between Mr Brian Crowther and Mrs Susan Vincent Brazier (Susan Lund).

Mr J. M. Lamont
and Miss J. R. Carne
The marriage took place at St Marylebone on Friday, March 28, 1980, of Mr John Lamont and Miss Joanna Carne, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs James Carne, of Highgate, London.

Mr B. P. Maguire
and Miss M. E. Wertheim
The marriage took place yesterday at Kensington of Mr Brendan Paul Maguire, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs O. D. Maguire, and Miss Marion Elizabeth Wertheim, daughter of Mr and Mrs Herbert Wertheim.

Mr C. A. Shawcross
and Miss A. M. Gunnell
The marriage took place on March 29 at All Saints' Church, Marlow, *Buckinghamshire, between Mr* Christopher Anthony Shawcross, only son of Mr and Mrs D. S. Shawcross, of Eton Berkshire and Miss Alison Mary Gunnell, only daughter of the late Mr F. E. C. Gunnell and Mrs D. Gunnell, of Moor Park, Hertfordshire. The Rev K. Toovey officiated, assisted by the Rev R. Henesey-Law.

Luncheons

National Maritime Museum
The Hon Anthony Cayzer, chairman of the Trustees of the National Maritime Museum, with the director and Mrs Basil Greenhill, entertained Sir John Nicholson, Marshal of the RAF Sir Neil Cameron (chairman of the RAF Museum) and Professor R. Boyd *at luncheon at the museum on* Thursday, March 27.

Law Society
The president of the Law Society, Mr John Stebbings, was host at a luncheon held at 60 Carey Street yesterday. The guests were: Lord [illegible] of Leeds, the Hon E. L. Gilliliou, Mr G. A. Bernhard, Mr R. B. Brockhurst, Mr J. Radford, Mr P. I. McQueen, Mr A. Neary, Mr D. A. Marshall, and Mr J. L. Bowron (secretary-general).

Dinners

Shrievalty of Somerset
The Lord Lieutenant of Somerset and Mrs Walter Luttrell were present at a dinner held last night in Taunton in honour of the incoming High Sheriff of Somerset, Mr John Lindley, and Mrs Lindley. The guests included the High Sheriff of Avon, and the outgoing High Sheriff of Somerset, Major Kenneth Crawford, and Mrs Crawford acted as hosts.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain
The president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, Mr D. N. Sharpe, presided at a dinner held at the society's headquarters at 1 Lambeth High Street yesterday. Mrs E. J. M. Leigh proposed a toast to the guests. The chief guest and speaker was Dr E. L. Harris. Other guests included:
Dame Phyllis Friend, Dr R. A. Krable-Elliott, Mr John Hannam, MP, Mr Michael English, MP, Mr Tony Marlow, MP, Sir Richard Alexander, MP, Dr S. C. Fullerton, Mrs B. P. R. Paterson, Professor A. R. Rogers, Mr Barrie R. Miller, Mr Keith Ackroyd, and Dr W. A. R. Thomson.

AP Bank Limited
The Chairman of AP Bank Limited *and Marchioness Townshend*, with the directors of the bank and their ladies, were hosts at the sixtieth annual dinner of the bank held at Claridge's hotel yesterday evening. The guests were:
Mr and Mrs G. Richardson, Mr and Mrs G. Blunden, the Hon L. H. L. and Mrs Cohen, Mr and Mrs M. G. Falcon, Sir Archibald Forbes and Miss C. Forbes, Sir and Mrs R. J. Petherbridge, Sir John and Lady Prideaux, Mr and Mrs E. Tangemann and Mr and Mrs D. Vander Weyer.

Forthcoming marriages

and the Hon Lucinda Evans
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr W. J. Hooper and of the late Mrs Hooper, of Wimbledon, London, and Lucinda, only daughter of Deirdre Lady Mountevans and of the late Lord Mountevans, of Kensington, London.

Mr I. McCulloch
and Miss C. M-C. Cornwallis
The engagement is announced between Ian, younger son of Mrs E. McCulloch, and Mary-Clare, eldest daughter of the Hon F. N. W. and Mrs Cornwallis.
Mr J. E. Hooper

Mr S. E. Blake
and Miss G. E. M. Murphy
The engagement is announced between Sean, son of the late Mr Grey Blake and of Mrs Ruth Sansom, of St John's Wood, NW8, and Geraldine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Murphy, of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Mr L. F. Cahn
and Mrs E. Caller
The marriage will take place on May 22 between Laurence, son of Mr D. Cahn and the late Mrs Cahn, of San Francisco, and Eileen, daughter of the late Mr T. W. Reynolds and of Mrs Reynolds, of Northumberland.

Actuaries' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress and Alderman and Sheriff Christopher Leaver and Mrs Leaver were guests of honour at the first livery dinner given by the Actuaries' Company at the Mansion House last night. Mr Geoffrey Heywood, Master, and Mr M. H. Oram and Mr H. C. Cottrell, Wardens, and their ladies, *received the guests. Among others* present were:
Lord and Lady Byers, Judge Paterson, Miss Rachel Paterson, the President of the Institute of Actuaries and Mrs Moody, the Prime Warden of the Fishmongers' Company and Mrs Till and the Master of the Clockmakers' Company and Mrs Daniels.

South Africa Club
The Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa presided at a dinner given last night by the South Africa Club at the Savoy Hotel at which Professor Gerrit van N. Viljoen, Administrator General for South West Africa, and Sir Henry Plumb were guests of honour. Among others present were:
Lord and Lady Barber, Mr Angus Maude, MP, and Mrs Maude, Sir Peter and Lady Tennant and Mr and Mrs Daniel Meinertzhagen.

Service dinner

Ulster Defence Regiment
The Ulster Defence Regiment held a regimental dinner in The City Hall, Belfast, on Monday to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the formation of the regiment. The principal guests were General Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of the General Staff, and Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. Other guests were:
The Lord Mayor of Belfast, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Lawson, the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Major-Generals J. M. Glover and L. Scott-Bowden, and Brigadiers D. W. Ormerod, M. N. S. McCord, D. Ramsbotham, C. J. Waters, and C. T. Shortis.

Today's engagements

Princess Margaret, patron of Architects' Benevolent Society, opens extension to Frenchlands Hatch, East Horsley, 3.
Vikings Exhibition, British Museum, 10 to 5.
Exhibition of 50 years of television broadcasting, Science Museum, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, 10 to 6.
The Family Centre, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road: activities for children and parents, 10.30 to 4. Also at Natural History Museum, Patterns of Diversity exhibition.
London Walk: Best of British pubs night, meet Bond Street station, 7.30.
Lecture: Renaissance Altapiece, Victoria and Albert Museum, 1.15.

Latest appointments

Mr Richard Stratton has been appointed British High Commissioner to New Zealand in succession to Sir Harold Smedley, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Other appointments include:
The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres as First Crown Estate Commissioner in succession to Lord Thomson of Monifieth, who will retire on August 31.

Legal

Mr K. M. McHale to be a circuit judge on the South-eastern circuit.

Mr A. J. M. Baldwin to be clerk to the justices for the Petty Sessional Division of New Spelthorne.

Mr R. J. Pannone is to succeed Mr Harold Hewitt as one of the two solicitor members of the Supreme Court rule committee.

Three appointments to the County Court rule committee are announced: Mr Registrar Birks to succeed Mr Registrar Everett: Mr Andrew Smith to succeed Mr Arnold Russell Vick; and Mr Ernest Evans to succeed Mr Emyr O. Parry.

Mr A. V. Connon
and Miss A. S. Dowler
The engagement is announced between Anthony, youngest son of Mr and Mrs F. Connon, of Winchester, Hampshire, and Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Dowler, of Hartford, Cheshire.

Mr B. J. Coote
and Miss S. E. Adams
The engagement is announced between Barry John, son of Mrs Coote, and the late Mr J. O. F. Coote, of Colchester, and Susie, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Adams, of Feering, Essex.

Capt R. G. Hews
and Miss D. E. Janes
The engagement is announced between Richard Hews, 14th/20th King Hussars, younger son of Mr and Mrs G. R. D. Hews, of Canterbury, Kent, and Diana, elder daughter of Major-General and Mrs M. Janes, of Woodgreen, Hampshire.

Mr T. J. Hutton
and Mlle A. I. A. Titeux
The engagement is announced between Timothy, third son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Hutton, of Birdswood, Ashley Park, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and Anne, youngest daughter of the late M Georges Titeux and of Mme Yvonne Titeux, of 130 Boulevard Murat, Paris 16eme.

Mr R. W. C. Clegg
and Miss L. S. Walker
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr B. H. Clegg, of York, and the late Mrs I. C. Clegg, and Susan, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Roy Walker.

Mr M. G. More-Molyneux
and Miss S. Westmacott
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs James More-Molyneux, of Loseley Park, Guildford, and Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Westmacott, of Glanton House, Alnwick, Northumberland.

Mr G. P. H. Smith
and Miss S. Motion
The engagement is announced between Guy Patrick Hemsley, second son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Smith, of Corsley Farm, Groombridge, Sussex, and Sarah, daughter of Mr Robert Motion, of Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, and Mrs N. Sherwood, of Marks Tey, Essex.

Christening

The infant son of *Lord and Lady* Perry of Walton was christened Colin Stuart Macdonald by the Rev Norman Davies in the Crypt Chapel of the Palace of Westminster on Friday, March 28, 1980. The godparents are Mr Norman Davies, Mr Colin Silcock, Mrs Jennifer Brook and Mrs Dinah Hendrie.

Photograph by Chris Ball

Centenary gift: The Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, the Very Rev Alan Webster, with Mr Antony Webb, the cathedral's master carver, inspecting a carving which is to be *presented to St Paul's aCthedral*, Melbourne, Australia, for its centenary. The carving, a festoon of fruit and flowers in limewood and mounted on oak, is in the style of Grinling Gibbons, master carver to Sir Christopher Wren, the cathedral's architect.

'Wilderness park' for Scotland

From Our Correspondent
Edinburgh

A new chapter in the bizarre story of the 100-acre estate of Cammo, at Barnton, Edinburgh, will open this month when the estate becomes probably the first "wilderness park" in Britain.

The estate's owner, Mr Percival Louis Maitland-Tennent, was a recluse who lived in a caravan in the grounds until his death five years ago.

The house on the estate was said to be the original House of Shaws in *Kidnapped*, by Robert Louis Stevenson, but it had stood unoccupied for 20 years and was used by a pack of 30 dogs.

The condition of the interior was poor and the fabric had deteriorated to such an extent that the house had to be pulled down for safety reasons. But the walls have been left, although only a few feet in height, to indicate where it stood.

Before he died Mr Maitland-Tennent left Cammo to the National Trust for Scotland, but on April 25 it will pass into the care of the City of Edinburgh by the old Scottish procedure of a symbolic deliverance of a feu.

Earth and stones from the estate will be handed over on behalf of the trust by the president, Lord Wemyss and March, and received by Edinburgh's Lord Provost, Mr Kenneth Borthwick.

Friary grant plan rejected

An appeal for a £10,000 grant towards the restoration of the 600-year-old Dominican friary at Beverley has been rejected by Humberside County Council's finance committee.

The Friary Preservation Trust, which made the application for the grant, has raised and spent £26,000 on the restoration in addition to £32,500 from the Historic *Buildings Council.*

Church news

The Rev D. Frayne, Rector of St Mary, Caterham, diocese of Southwark, to be also Rural Dean of Caterham Deanery, same diocese.

The Rev Canon H. Garside, Vicar of St Wilfrid, Harrogate, and Priest-in-Charge of St Luke, Harrogate, diocese of Ripon, to be Vicar of the new parish of St Wilfrid and St Luke, Harrogate, same diocese.

The Rev J. H. Mitchell, Team Vicar *in the Central Torquay Team Ministry*, diocese of Exeter, to be Vicar of St Marychurch, Torquay, same diocese.

The Rev D. Osmond, Curate at St Edburgha, Yardley, diocese of Birmingham, to be Vicar of St Mary Wythall, same diocese.

The Rev H. Palmer, Curate of Holy Trinity, Heigham, diocese of Norwich, to be Bishop's Chaplain for Training and Mission from June 29.

The Rev J. D. M. Smith, Rural Dean of Sparham, Rector of Twyford and Guist and Priest-in-Charge of Bintry with Themelthorpe, diocese of Norwich, to be also Priest-in-Charge of Wood Norton, same diocese.

The Rev A. J. Tanner, Rector of St Botolph without Bishopsgate, diocese of London, also to be Priest-in-Charge of All Hallows, London Wall, same diocese.

The Rev P. S. Turner, Rector of Stickney, Vicar of Stickford and Priest-in-Charge of Eastville with Midville and New Leake, diocese of Lincoln, to be Vicar of Kinhurst in South Yorkshire, diocese of Sheffield.

The Rev T. G. Vaughan, Chaplain of St Peter's and Botleys Park Hospitals, Chertsey, diocese of Guildford, to be Chaplain of the Wearmouth Hospitals, Sunderland, diocese of Durham.

The Rev R. M. Wiggen, Diocesan Youth Officer, diocese of Liverpool, to be Vicar of Kirkstall, diocese of Ripon.

The Rev D. E. C. Wright, Vicar of High Wych and Gilston with Eastwick, diocese of St Albans, to be Vicar of Saint Mary, Marshalswick, in the

Leeds radio choice

West Yorkshire Broadcasting has been selected from five applicant groups by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to provide *the independent local radio service* for the Leeds area.

Old money gallops ahead in price

By Huon Mallalieu

The estimates in Christie's sale of North American coins yesterday looked a little like most of the entrants in the Grand National when compared to the prices obtained on the day.

They were based on the standard catalogues for last year, and since then, of course, much has happened in the market for precious metals and related artifacts. Since most buyers were likely to come from America, the auctioneers used the American rather *than the British quality* grading in the catalogue.

An Indian head gold half-eagle, or $5 piece, of 1929, described as "mint state 60", the American scale running from one oup to 70, sold to Werner, a dealer from New York, for £8,200 against an estimate of £2,000 to £2,200. Even more dramatic was the fate of a proof trade dollar of 1883, of which only 979 were minted and which was rated as "mint state 65", which made £4,900 against an estimate of between £580 and £620.

Mr Tony Carrato, of the Eagle Coin Company, of Niagara Falls, Canada, was in London on other business and came to the sale virtually by chance. He paid £4,200 for a proof set of Canadian coins from 1 cent to 50 cents for 1929, described as "gem proof" or roughly fleur de coin, which had carried an estimate of £1,800 to £2,000. Mr Carrato knows of only one other comparable set, which was sold in Montreal last October for much the same sum. The sale made a total of £150,601, with nothing failing to find a buyer.

Christie's also sold Russian and Greek icons, making £157,130, with 34 per cent bought in, and Japanese swords and prints, making £101,385, with 6 per cent failing to sell. In the former sale there was strong bidding from private collectors, and a sixteenth-century Cypriot icon of the Descent into Hell made £7,300 (estimate £10,000 to £11,000).

At Sotheby's Belgravia a sale of Victorian paintings and watercolours made £161,133, with 16 per cent bought in. A private buyer paid *£4,200 for "Gathering Flotsam"*, a rather forbidding painting dated 1872 by Henry Redmore (estimate £2,500 to £3,000).

At Bond Street Sotheby's sold arms and armour to a total of £97,680, with 6.5 per cent bought in, and English pottery and porcelain, making £20,563, with 10.5 per cent failing to find buyers.

Knapp, a dealer from Vienna, paid £6,200 for a Nuremberg wheel-lock short musket with an inlaid walnut stock and dating from the last quarter of the sixteenth century (estimate £8,000 to £12,000), and Wharton, a dealer from Aberdeen, £6,000 for a South German wheel-lock musket of about 1600 (estimate £7,000 to £10,000).

In the afternoon, rather than in the morning as originally advertised, Phillips sold nineteenth and twentieth-century paintings, making a total of £134,200, with 13 per cent failing to sell. The most expensive offering, at £8,500, was a pair of scenes on the Amsterdam canals by Jan Jacob Spöhler (estimate £3,000 to £4,000). Williams, the London dealer, paid £6,200 for a genre painting of a Cardinal by Georges Croegaert (estimate £1,200 to £1,800).

At Bonhams a sale of silver made £36,011, with 3 per cent bought in. A table service dating from about 1825 in Sheffield plate went to the London trade at £5,200 (estimate £3,800 to £4,200).

Latest wills

Sir Leon Bagrit, chairman of Elliot-Automation and director of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, left £2,248,836 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid; tax not disclosed):

Arblaster, Mr Edwin Sydney, of Preston Capes, Northamptonshire	£433,034
Bayley, Mr John Henry Harvey, of Prestbury, Cheltenham	£271,379
Giddy, Commander Osman Cyril Horton, of Worthing	£172,944
Jackson, Mr Robert Raynsford, of Weybridge	£167,064
Pickering, Mr Royston, of *Hinckley, Leicestershire*	£133,439
Powell, Mr Hiram Bernard Francis, of Ashtead, Surrey, barrister	£134,560
Norland, Mrs Mary Wanklyn, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire	£122,476
Tisdall, Mrs Christina Maude Evelyn, of Windlesham, Surrey	£132,615
Dickson, Mr Thomas Eric, of Liphook, Hampshire, schoolmaster	*£174,037*
Flitcroft, Dr Terence, of Streatley, Berkshire, company executive	£181,421
Cripwell, Mrs Edith Mary, of *Bunny, Nottinghamshire*	£133,946
Crouch, Mr Albert Douglas Harrison, of East Looe, Cornwall	£162,535
Handley, Mr Vincent Arthur, of Fulford, Stoke-on-Trent, intestate	£147,926
Nash, Mr Eugene Fleetwood, of Dorstone, Hereford and Worcester	£131,784
Poyner, Mr Philip Harley, of Cheltenham, solicitor	£200,945
Cooper, Mrs Beatrice May, of Winchester	£148,244
Allen, Mr Bertram Ernest, of Finmere, Buckingham	£463,731
Ingham, Mrs Grace Elizabeth, of *Portsmouth*	£138,723
Berkson, Mr Labe Bere, of Birkenhead	£137,882
Davies, Mr Herbert Arnold, of Ogmore-by-Sea, Glamorgan	£149,904
Penna, Mr Leonard James, of Newquay	£194,679
Rundle, Lieutenant-Colonel Cubitt Archer Grant, of Northam, Devon	£132,895
Toms, Mrs Gertrude, of Middlesbrough	£131,484
Lloyd, Mr Percy William, of Wolverton, Buckinghamshire	£140,405

Science report

Nuclear energy: Harrisburg damage

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

An argument of fundamental importance to safety is in progress between scientists and engineers over the exact conditions of the nuclear core of the crippled reactor at Three Mile Island, Harrisburg. The dispute turns on an issue that has not been aired publicly about the extent of damage to the zirconium cladding which forms a protective coating round the uranium fuel.

Under normal conditions zirconium has certain characteristics that are far better for sustaining the chain reaction between the fuel rods than other metals used for cladding, such as stainless steel. But when the control equipment failed on March 28 last year, the zirconium responded to the unusual conditions to play a significant part in damaging the core.

The zirconium reacted with steam, after the water coolant system failed, to form zirconium oxide and hydrogen. That gas is believed to have been the source of an explosion in the containment building on the first day of the accident. *It later formed a* gas bubble which threatened to block completely the cooling water system after the initial disruption. The worst kind of disaster would have followed with the core of uranium fuel and waste products melting through the reactor vessel.

At the normal operating temperature of 650°F, zirconium is stable. At high temperatures the metal reacts strongly with air, water or steam. At about 1,500° the material becomes plastic, *swells like a balloon and splits to* expose the fuel and fission products.

The question of how far this process was allowed to occur in the reactor is one of the vital factors in deciding how to clear up the mess inside the plant. Other reactions are still producing radioactive gases that are additional hazards, unless they are *removed either by slow deliberate* discharges to the atmosphere or removed by remote control into disposal cylinders.

The severity of the zirconium trouble rests on how high the temperature eventually reached during the loss of cooling water and in the subsequent events.

When zirconium reacts with steam at 2,000°, the oxidation process *and the release of hydrogen* is accompanied by a rise in temperature stimulating further oxidation. At temperatures over 3,400° the metal cladding can dissolve small amounts of enriched uranium fuel. If temperatures climb to over 4,400°, the metal cladding can dissolve six to seven times its own volume of fuel.

The commission of inquiry into the accident concluded that temperatures above 3,500° were generated in the upper part of the core and up to 4,000° in some sections. Under these conditions nearly half the cladding split and a proportion of fuel melted. The question remains, how much melted?

Until that is decided, it is impossible to assess with any confidence the risks in any attempt to remove any of the debris from within the reactor. Parts of the core are known to have collapsed; *but the condition of that material* is dependent on whether it consists of a significant amount of a zirconium-uranium alloy. A mixture of that nature could still cause local overheating and the start of another explosive series of events.

Attempts have been made in the laboratory to simulate the inside of the reactor. But this has led *to startlingly different views of* the amount of fuel likely to have melted, ranging from a few pounds to several tons.

25 years ago

From The Times summary of the newspaper strike period for Friday, April 1, 1955.

Meat from Argentina

Britain is to receive £34,960,000 worth of meat from Argentina between now and June next year under the new trade and payments agreement. The details are given in schedules to the agreements issued by the Treasury after the announcement in the Commons. Other Argentine goods to be imported to Britain include: Grain, £20m (wheat, maize, oats and barley); cotton fibre, £3,500,000; wool, £2,800,000; butter, £2m; fresh and dried fruit, £1,100,000 (including apples and pears, £650,000); frozen poultry, £900,000. Among goods to be imported by Argentina from Britain or from United Kingdom companies are: Petroleum and petroleum products, £32,500,000; coal, £1,500,000; tinplate, £2,300,000; iron and steel, unprocessed, £1,800,000; raw materials and motors for manufacturers of agricultural machinery, £3,400,000; drugs, specifics, etc, £1,200,000; spares for motor vehicles, £1,200,000; spares and accessories for industrial and non-industrial machinery, £2,840,000; resins, £1,025,000; miscellaneous chemicals, £1,670,000. British capital goods for export are estimated at £66,025,000.

OBITUARY

MR STEPHEN BARBER

Notable foreign correspondent

Mr Stephen Barber, chief Washington correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, died in Washington on March 30, at the age of 58. He had been ill for the past few weeks.

His 41-year-long career as a foreign correspondent began in Cairo at the outset of the Second World War where he worked as a sub-editor on the *Egyptian Gazette*. The son of a member of the Colonial Service, he had been born in Egypt and educated on the Isle of Wight.

His first job was as an advertizing copy writer. In 7942, he became naval correspondent for Associated Press (whose staff in Cairo he had joined a year earlier), reporting all the North African campaigns from Alamein to Anzio. He was wounded by shrapnel during the allied attack on the island of Elba but this did not prevent him from being the first correspondent to report the news of Mussolini's death.

At the end of the war he joined the *News Chronicle* where he was the first correspondent behind partisan lines in the 1947 Greek Civil War. He was later assigned to write about events in Palestine and various parts of Africa before being sent into Korea with the first contingent of British troops.

After Korea he was ap ted Rome correspondent fo *News Chronicle* although was a frequent traveller to Middle East, Africa and Among his assignments wa French collapse in South-Asia.

He joined *The Daily graph* in 1961 as Delhi Co pondent, moving to Washin two years later as the co pondent there for *The Su Telegraph*. He later rej *The Daily Telegraph* as correspondent and Washin bureau chief, latterly for newspapers.

During his 17 years in W ington, he wrote about major political developme the United States from assassination of President nedy to the opening of year's presidential ele campaign. In addition to wr *America in Retreat*, a published in 1971 about A can foreign policy in the of the Vietnam War, he frequent lecturer and mentator on radio and vision programmes in United States and in Eu He also contributed artic many publications around world, including the *Eastern Economic Review* the *Rand Daily Mail*.

He leaves a widow, Dei a son, Simon, a ste Charles, and two daughters, Caroline and

PROFESSOR D. M. NEWITT

Professor Dudley Maurice Newitt, MC, FRS, who died on March 18 at the age of 85, was a prominent figure in the world of chemical engineering in its formative years, and had great influence on many generations of students.

After service in the Indian Army in the First World War, for which he was awarded the Military Cross, he began his long association with Imperial College. Graduating with first class honours in chemistry in 1921, he moved to the infant Chemical Technology Department to work on combustion under the notorious Professor Bone. He soon established an independent reputation as an authority on high pressure engineering and the measurement of fluid thermodynamic properties, a field in which he retained an active interest right up to his death.

But, always pioneering in new and difficult fields and always the enthusiastic experimentalist, he moved on to make fundamental contributions to our understanding of drying processes, hydraulic conveying, bubble behaviour and granulation. He was elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1942. He was equally active in the development of his profession. He had been one of the founders of the Institution of Chem Engineers in 1922, was aw their Moulton Medal, Osborne Reynolds Medal fo many contributions, and s as their president in 1949 1950.

During the war years he Director of Research of Inter-Services Research Bu a highly effective organiz responsible for subversive *vities in enemy occupied* tries. At the end of the w became the first occupar the Courtaulds Chair of C cal Engineering at Im College, then head of Chemical Engineering De ment in 1952 and Pro R of the College in 1956. Alth much occupied with the e sion of the Department an College, and many duties side, he never lost touch his students. In fact *remember him as much fo* friendliness and encourage his dry sense of humour his Indian fishing stories, a his great contributions t profession.

The Department institute Annual Newitt Lecture in and it was a great pleasu all his friends that Di Newitt, in his eighties, atte these lectures and showed same qualities of wit and v for which he will alway remembered.

ELISABETH SCHWILLER

Elisabeth Schwiller, the dramatic soprano and teacher, widow of the distinguished conductor and violinist Isidore Schwiller, died on March 22. She was 84.

She was born Elisabeth Lyons in London in 1895, and began *singing* as a small child at school and at local charities. As a girl she toured South Africa in the Frank Wheeler-George Edwardes juvenile musical comedy company which included Dan Leno Jnr among its members. She later toured China and the Far East, Singapore, Hongkong and the Philippine Islands.

She sang in the Sir Joseph Beecham Opera Company in 1911 in the chorus and as an understudy and married the conductor, Isidore Schwiller, in 1912. During the 1914-1918 war she entertained the forces and was leading lady in several wartime revues and also toured as Prima Donna in the Allington Charsley Opera Company.

She sang small roles under the name of Elise Leoni at Covent Garden in the Beecham International Season in 19 Tosca, Louise and M *Butterfly with Melba*, De Martinelli, Scotti and Gilly. She subsequently st in London and Paris wit Algerian baritone Dinh who was a pupil of Cor himself a pupil of Rossini.

During the Second W War she drove a van for E and toured all over Eng and Scotland with a co party entertaining the force 1945 she established tog with her husband the Elisa Schwiller School of Opera gave concert performance operas with her husbanc conductor, and had been t ing privately in London 1950 until shortly before death.

Her book, *The Way to* an exposition of the Italian *canto* method, from the Go Age of singing, now almos tinct, which is her life's w is due to be published sh in a private edition.

She leaves a son and daughters.

M ROLAND BARTHES

A correspondent writes:

Those who knew Roland Barthes, or who have read, enjoyed and learnt from his writings, would be unhappy were your obituary of him to be received in this country as a final judgment. Barthes was a man of the rarest intellectual vitality who was as fascinated by the techniques of literature as he was by its ideologies and emotiveness. He analyzed it, and loved it also. In his earlier days he did much to discredit, one hopes for ever, the lifeless positivism of the academic study of literature in France. He remained until his death an incomparable source of new ideas, and it is impossible to read his books without becoming a more alert and mature reader of books in general.

He had no one distinctive critical theory of his own because he refused to allow mind to be arrested in that or his name to become id fied with some inflexible trine. His influence, in Fr and elsewhere, was of the kind, because he preferre inspire rather than "co others. He hated whatever stereotyped and therefore authentic and whatever authoritarian and there dismissive.

The leftwing political c mitment of his younger became less obvious with t and his last books were sonal, not ideological. Bar overrode the distinction tha usually made between creators of literature and critics; he thought both c be classed as writers. He most certainly a writer hims one of great intellige subtlety, wit and verbal forc

EARL OF HALIFAX

D. writes:

The death of Charles Halifax will be deeply felt by people from many different walks of life.

It was as a colleague in the racing world and in its administration that I saw most of Charles. His tall, lean, immaculate figure was known and loved throughout the world of the turf. When racing, whoever he met and passed the time of day with felt that the day had been special and more enjoyable. Being the fairest of men, when acting as a Steward, his *decisions were accepted without* question.

All this was so overwhelmingly demonstrated when on that great day in June 1978 Shirley Heights, owned and bred by Charles and his son Peter, won the Derby. As their colt snatched victory in the very l stride the whole vast crowd Epsom Downs erupted in a g roar of cheers. Then follo the tumultous reception t greeted him as he led his ho into the Winners' Enclosure. was an occasion that none us who were lucky enough be there will ever forget. Sur there cannot have been a m popular winner of that great of all races for a very long ti

Charles and his wife Ru were the most generous a agreeable of hosts. To stay Garrowby was a privilege all *friends cherished and valu* To sit in the lovely room th they built to house the famil great collection of Stubbs's p tures made one feel one w living in a different world, world ruled only by goodne and beauty.

Mr Sydney Humbert Fisher, *CVO*, late *Deputy Chief* Regional Officer, London Midland Region, Railway Executive, died on March 9 at the age of 93.

Mr F. W. ("Freddie") Rea Jahn, overseas press consulta to the Society of Motor Man facturers and Traders, died March 13 in Geneva. He was t

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Stock markets
FT Index 432.4, up 5.4
FT Gilts 64.82, down 0.66

Sterling
$2.1425, down 2.15 cents
Index 72.3, down 0.3

Dollar
Index 91.8, up 1.0

Gold
$503, down $1

Money
3mth sterling 18⅞-18¾
3mth Euro $ 20-20⅛
3mth Euro-$ 19⅞-19¾

IN BRIEF

7m grant for EEC fishing industry

...n's hard-pressed fishing ...y has been given a £2.7m ...rom the EEC towards ...ore fishing vessels and ...ce the setting up of five ...ms.

...grant comes on top of ... to the trawler industry ...ed by the Government ...nth.

...ndrew Palfreman, chief ...e of the National ...ion of Fishermen's Or...ons, said that EEC aid ...orm came only after an ...ent decision had been ...d a government grant ...t. The drawback was ...did not generate invest...

...y sales
...has sold three 757 ... to Trans Brasil the ...merican operator for ...in 1983 and 1984. The ...choice will be an...later.

...refinery
...and Petromin, the Saudi ...l company, has signed ...ment for a joint ven...finery to be built at ...l. The development, ...nsideration for several ...ill now cost more than (£450m).

...g Act attacked
...Bank of England is ... to announce its first ...uthorized banks today. ...t Mr Walter Salomon, ... of Rea Brothers, ... the Banking Act as ...r nationalization.

...hits Grimsby
...y fish merchants have ...cted by a strike which ...down the port's ice ...Merchants had to send ...way wrapped only in ...oof paper

...gas storage plan
...Gas has bought out its ... in the partially-...Rough Field in the ...a and intends convert-...field into a natural ...tank for surplus gas.

...y concession
...is to make concessions ...h whisky exporters so ...ports into Japan do not ...o a higher duty band. ...s strength has increased ...d price.

...cash limits
...financial limit of the ... Ireland Development ...y has been raised by ...nment from £50m to ...

...gs may drop
...as earnings by major ...Kingdom service indus...uld grow by only five ... per cent in 1980, com...ith growth of roughly ...en per cent in 1979, the ...se on Invisible Exports

...n bank help
...Armstrong, chairman of ...land Bank, hints in his ...eport published yester...t the bank might do ...g about rewarding cur...ount holders.

...nancial Editor, page 21

US prime rate nears 20 per cent as dollar surges on world markets

By Caroline Atkinson in London and Peter Norman in Brussels

American prime rates climbed to yet another record level yesterday as Chase Manhattan Bank raised its prime lending rate to 19¾ per cent, the first big bank to put the rate charged to its best customers up to such a height.

Last Friday some banks had moved their rates up to 19½ per cent, although Chase had then stayed at 19¼ per cent. Rates have probably still not peaked, although the tight United States money squeeze has sent them soaring in the past few weeks.

Money poured into dollars yesterday, even before the news of the higher interest rates. Foreign exchange dealers have expected a further rise in United States interest rates and have bought up the currency accordingly. There was hectic market activity as foreign central banks tried to slow the dollar's rise.

The West German Government is to arrange to borrow Deutsche marks from the United States Government to help cover its yawning payments gap of more than DM24,000m (£5,783m) expected this year.

A senior official from the finance ministry in Bonn is understood to be visiting Washington this week to negotiate the terms.

It is expected that the United States will be offered German Government promissory notes of more than two years life in a deal similar to that recently concluded between Bonn and Saudi Arabia.

However the scale of the borrowing from the United States is likely to be much smaller than the estimated 5,000m mark borrowing from the Saudi Arabian monetary agency. It is thought that the sum involved will be about 1,000m marks.

The initiative for this latest German borrowing abroad appears to have come from the United States authorities, which are anxious to find a lucrative haven for Deutsche mark surpluses accumulated in the course of the dollar's advance.

The operation is not therefore directly connected with the larest sharp rise in the dollar's value. German monetary authorities seem to accept that they will have to live with a strong dollar as long as the present wide gap of about nine percentage points exists between yields on Deutsche mark and dollar investments.

However they do not seem to like it much. Although the German central bank was selling dollars from its reserves yesterday in an attempt to slow the dollar's rise, the mark dropped 1½ per cent and closed at an 18-month low of DM1.9725 to the dollar.

The Japanese authorities have intervened even more substantially than the Gedmans. They tially than the Germans. They have spent as much as $5,000m since Friday trying to hold up the yen.

The high level of market intervention shows how anxious the Japanese government is to stop the yen falling and adding to inflationary pressures at home.

Yesterday the Japanese and Swiss announced the setting up of a new exchange line between the two countries worth 200,000m yen (£369m) to defend the yen.

The currency has fallen to a two and a half year low against the dollar, closing in London yesterday at 254.5 yen

Sterling performed better than most currencies against the dollar yesterday. Although falling at one point to $2.129 it recovered to finish at $2.1425, down 2.15 cents on the day.

In trade-weighted terms the pound dropped by 0.3 points to close at 72.3 per cent of its end 1971 value.

The Bank of England was not thought to have supported the pound greatly. Sterling has remained remarkably buoyant in recent weeks

Doubt on scope for future tax cuts

By Our Economics Staff

The Government is overoptimistic about the scope for tax cuts later in this Parliament, according to the specialist advisers to the House of Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee.

Treasury officials will be questioned by the committee this morning on the budget, the Spending White Paper and the medium term financial strategy announced last week.

Dr Alan Budd of the London Business School, Dr Paul Nield of stockbrokers Phillips and Drew, and Mr Terry Ward of the Cambridge Department of Applied Economics have written papers for the committee. Although the three have different views on the economy they are in broad agreement that there will be less room for tax cuts in 1983 and 1984 than the Government's figure of £3,500m (1978-79 prices).

The Government's spending plans are unrealistic according to Dr Nield and Mr Ward who expect a far smaller drop in public spending between now and 1983 than shown in the Spending White Paper.

The main reason for their scepticism is that much of the reduction in spending is supposed to come from a vast improvement in the finances of nationalized industries. This would depend on rapidly rising charges by the nationalized industries which the economists think unlikely.

The main reason for their scepticism is that much of the reduction in spending is supposed to come from a vast improvement in the finances of nationalized industries. This would depend on soaring nationalized industry charges.

The nationalized industries are assumed in the white paper to move from a deficit of £2,300m in 1979-80 to an overall surplus of £400m by 1983-84 (at constant 1979 prices). The Government's planned cuts in housing are also thought to be unrealistic. The cuts of £2,500m in the housing programme over the next four years would require very sharp rises in council rents, and a big increase in the real value of rents.

Although Dr Budd is less sceptical about the Government's ability to meet its spending plans than the others he agrees that the Government will be forced to borrow more than planned for in the medium term financial strategy.

Dr Budd believes that there will be about £1,000m (in 1978-79 prices) less for tax cuts in 1983 and 1984 than in the Government's medium term strategy. Both Mr Ward and Dr Nield doubt if there will be any at all.

The picture is especially gloomy because the advisers assume much larger North Sea oil revenues than the Government does. Despite the extra £3,000m to £4,000m (1978-79 prices) from the North Sea which they expect by 1983-84, the economists still believe the Government will be up against its borrowing target.

Treasury ministers have been keen to emphasize that the Government's assumptions about economic growth in the medium term are cautious. But the advisers disagree; they believe that the 1 per cent a year growth after 1980 will be hard to achieve.

If growth is lower than the Government has assumed then the public sector borrowing requirement will tend to be larger than allowed for.

There would be more unemployment, higher spending on unemployment pay, less personal and company income, so government tax receipts would be lower.

The advisers all expect significantly higher unemployment than the Government. They estimate that between 2.25m and 2.5m will be unemployed in 1983 and 1984.

A subcommittee of the main treasury committee is now looking into the controversial appointment of former civil servants to key private sector jobs. Two MPs are now drafting a report, which is likely to be critical of the recent appointment of Mr John Lippett, a Department of Industry civil servant, to the GEC.

Yesterday the committee published its first report on the recent supplementary spending estimates. It called for a change in the House of Commons procedure for examining additional spending estimates to give greater Parliamentary control.

The committee believes that there should be a new procedure committee and that all the new departmental select committees in the House of Commons should be allowed to examine spending estimates before they go to the main house for approval. This should ensure better management of public spending in the committee's view.

The committee may decide to question officials from the Bank of England as well as officials from the Treasury. They will certainly do so later on in the course of a big inquiry into the running of monetary and economic policy.

They expect to begin this by Whitsun, and to complete it within a year at the most. The committee will also probably publish a paper on the Government's consultative document on monetary control, which was published two weeks ago.

Later this month the Treasury committee will question the Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, on the Budget documents.

Bank puts off recall of special deposits

By John Whitmore

Strong institutional demand for gilt-edged stock yesterday morning enabled the Government to achieve its first funding since last week's Budget. Supplies of the long-dated tap stock, Treasury 14 per cent 1996, were quickly declared exhausted.

Earlier in the morning the Bank of England had announced that it was to defer its plans to recall more than £500m from the banking system next Tuesday. This money will not now have to be lodged at the central bank as special deposits until June 15.

The major factor in bringing institutions into the gilt market yesterday, however, appears to have had more to do with the settlement of the steel strike. Prices had already moved higher on Monday afternoon and yesterday's follow-through found the Government broker able to supply the tap stock without cutting his price.

The stock which currently trades in £50 paid form was exhausted at £50 5/16. Market estimates suggested that rather more than half the £800m nominal stock may still have been in the Government broker's hands before the start of business yesterday.

The authorities will doubtless be happy about yesterday's sales. They had found the market's initial reaction to last Wednesday's Budget rather disappointing and may well have been wondering whether they might have to cut their tap prices—there is also a short tap outstanding—to get funding moving again.

As it is, they must now decide how quickly to produce a replacement stock. If they wish to have any chance of selling any in the present banking month—which ends on April 16—then they will almost certainly have to announce a new stock before the Easter holiday.

With money markets generally expected to remain tight for some weeks yet and with short term interest rates once again above 18 per cent, the Bank may also defer this unwinding operation. On the other hand, pressure on some clearers could now be somewhat relieved with Treasury 9¾ per cent 1981 falling into reserve asset status.

Until there is some general easing in the money market conditions, there can be little prospect of an early fall in the Bank of England minimum lending rate. Although the Government is under pressure from business to reduce interest rates as quickly as possible, the *Chancellor's speech last week* was notable for the absence of any guidance on interest rate trends over the short term.

The Government is keen to see rates lower, but the further rise in overseas rates is not making things any easier and there could be considerable problems for domestic monetary control once the "corset" is removed unless it is clear that corporate sector borrowing is starting to decelerate sharply by then.

What the authorities will clearly not do at the moment, however, is to try to overplay their hands. Sales of gilt-edged securities to the private sector drain liquidity out of the banking system

It is because of this continuing tightness in short-term money markets which in turn puts enormous pressure on the reserve assets of the banking system, that the Bank yesterday decided to make yet another deferral of its plans to recall money from the banks

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Takeover Panel rules on St Piran

By Michael Prest

The Takeover Panel has ruled that Mr James Raper and companies registered in Hongkong, Luxembourg and Panama, acted as concert parties in controlling over 30 per cent of St Piran, the mining and property company, and that an obligation was incurred to bid for the rest of St Piran's shares.

At the end of one of the most complex inquiries it has conducted, the Panel, whose chairman Lord Shawcross is shortly to retire, concluded: "The 34 per cent shareholding in St Piran, which Mr Raper had in 1974, remained substantially under his control through a complex web of companies."

The Panel says that Mr Raper and those acting with him, should bid for the outstanding shares at 85p each. But, it says, there is no indications as to whether the funds are available for such an offer. There is no appeal against the Panel's decision.

The companies which the Panel alleges acted together and are controlled by Mr Raper are Gasco Investments (Hongkong) with 3.45 million shares or 29.6 per cent, Ruffec (Luxembourg) with 470,000 shares or 4 per cent, Aerolinas Cordoba (Panama) with 400,000 shares or 3.4 per cent. Mr Raper directly controls 1,000 shares and is chairman of Gasco.

Mr Raper was unavailable for comment at his Swiss home last night, but Mr Malcolm Stone, chairman of St Piran and managing director of Gasco Investments, said that much of the Panel's evidence was circumstantial. He expressed the opinion that Mr Raper had declined to attend the hearing on March 21, after asking for a postponement, because the issue was prejudged.

Mr Stone said a meeting of the Gasco board would be held soon, and he stressed that Gasco had never said it would not accept the Panel's conclusion. But he did not know whether finance would be available to make an offer for the rest of the shares. And he said that as far as he knew there was no connexion between Gasco, Ruffec, and Aerolinas Cordoba.

The Panel's decision will have further implications. It will be seen as a warning that the conditions of the Takeover Code cannot be fulfilled by simply revealing the name of nominee shareholders if the identity of the beneficial holder is material. Secondly, the Panel reserves the right to determine whether a concert party exists by reference to circumstantial evidence, particularly as it relates to the board of directors.

St Piran was founded in 1970 to bring together tin interests in the Far East, mainly Thailand, and in Cornwall, where

Lord Shawcross

the company has 65 per cent of South Crofty. Since then its board has changed frequently, and many of the directors have been closely associated with Mr Raper. Between 1973 and 1976 Mr Raper was chairman of St Piran.

Continued on page 23, col 4

Controls on Soviet ship trade urged

By Michael Baily

Western Europe should control trade via Russian shipping and the Trans-Siberian Railway in the same way that it controls landings by Aeroflot, Mr Jack Kruse, the new chairman of the Far Eastern Freight Conference and chairman of Hapag-Lloyd the German shipping group said yesterday.

He described EEC efforts to monitor Russian cut-price shipping passing through west Europesen ports as ridiculous and said only forceful action by the West would succeed in countering the threat posed by Russian shipping and the Trans-Siberian Railway.

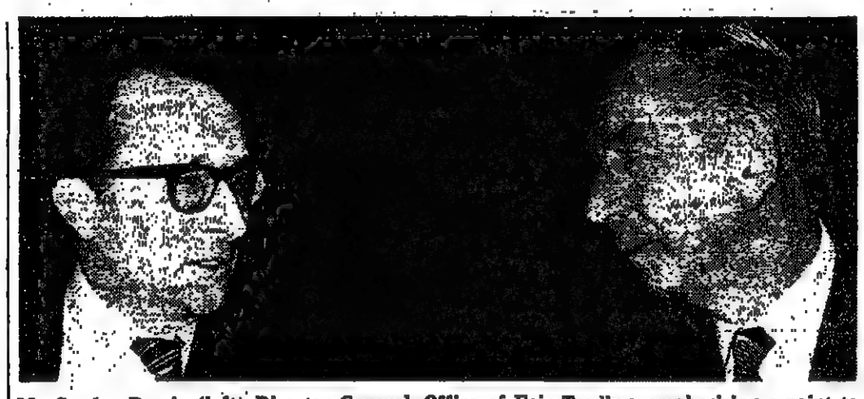
The EEC was the obvious body to provide this action but so far had failed to do so.

The railway constituted a unique threat to Far East trade lines because it was efficient with total flexibility in pricing, and governed only by the political ambition of the Soviet government to earn foreign exchange, influence the affairs of other countries, and develop containerization.

Thus although the railway at present carried only about 10 per cent Europe-Far East trade compared with 15 per cent carried by outsiders, it was a more difficult problem to deal with.

Outsider lines could be dealt with by commercial means and could be expected to cease growing as excess shipyard capacity throughout the world was brought under control.

But the Russians could be dealt with only by political action by governments concerned to protect the commercial activities of their citizens in the same way as they were prepared to protect the interests of their state-owned airlines.



Mr Gordon Borrie (left) Director General, Office of Fair Trading, emphasizing a point to Sir John Methven, Director General of the Confederation of British Industry, during a break at the conference on the Competition Bill in London yesterday.

CBI voices misgivings about new powers for Fair Trading chief

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Misgivings about wide new competition powers for Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, and the lack of redress in the courts against results of new-style investigations of anti-competitive practices, emerged strongly at a conference on the Government's Competition Bill in London yesterday organized by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI).

Sir John Methven, the Director General of the CBI, who had given warning that the CBI would monitor carefully the implementing of the new competition legislation, was asked if Mr Borrie would not be a Lord Chief Justice, creating case law as he went along.

Sir John said: "There is a real danger here—just as there was when some time ago I was Director General of Fair Trading. There is an enormous panopoly of powers being invested in one man and here we are going into an entirely new scene that is quite untested."

Sir John stressed the need for the Office of Fair Trading, when it begins investigation of anti-competitive practices under the Competition Bill after it becomes law tomorrow, to have people with practical business experience on its staff.

He said: "Return on capital in trade and industry on a replacement cost basis is 2 per cent. If the Bill's new powers were used without discrimination it could lower that return still further."

While he did not question the role which the government had to play in the operation of an effective and fair competition policy, Sir John believed that the existing powers of the Director General and of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission were already sufficiently wide. It was because the wider powers were so imprecise that the CBI had pressed for clarifications and assurances.

It would, for instance, be less likely now that investigations would start on one tack and end up on another because of new evidence, Sir John said.

Mr Borrie told the conference that on the contrary most OFT investigations would be following up valid complaints. "The investigation of anti-competitive practices is a new and difficult area where I will have to feel my way over successive years.

"I have no intention of releasing, like some latter-day Genghis Khan, a golden horde of officials to ravage British industry in an attempt to achieve some meaningless target."

Imperial may abandon Howard Johnson bid

By Richard Allen

Imperial Group seems to be on the verge of withdrawing its controversial $630m (£295m) takeover offer for Howard Johnson, the United States hotels and restaurants chain.

Neither group would comment on the position yesterday, but it seems the deal has run into a batch of insurmountable last-minute problems.

The deal is still blocked by liquor licensing problems in four states, which account for about 25 per cent of Ho-Jo's business, while new penal borrowing requirements in the United States could increase dramatically the financing costs of the takeover.

Meanwhile in his annual report released yesterday, Mr Howard Johnson warns shareholders that the group faces problems of rising inflation and petrol availability that could cut into its motor lodge and restaurant business.

Speculation that the bid would collapse began last week when Sir John Pile, Imperial's outgoing chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that there were "questions still to be answered" regarding aspects of the Ho-Jo business.

The subsequent silence has incensed officials on Wall Street where Ho-Jo shares, suspended after Sir John's remarks, have returned to trading at $15¼, well below that $28 value of the Imperial offer. The New York Stock Exchange is understood to be pressing the American group for clarification.

Increasing the confusion, Imperial has been linked with another possible United States acquisition, Banquet, the RCA frozen food subsidiary which is up for sale at more than $400m.

RCA has mentioned Imperial as a possible rival bidder to the Coca-Cola organization, although the British group was apparently surprised at the suggestion.

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UK design standards challenged

It is becoming more and more difficult to find original British designs worthy of award, the Design Council said at its annual announcement of awards yesterday.

Mr Ken Grange, head of the judges' panel said: "Money is not being invested into the design of new products. There is no commitment even though we have some of the best designers in the world."

The council has nominated seven manufacturers, two in Scotland and five in England.

In all, 228 candidates were considered but the council conceded that most arose from the Council's research to discover companies not registered.

The winners were Bramah Security Equipment of London (for its new padlock), Donald Brothers from Dundee for its new fabric collection; Crabtree Electrical Industries of Walsall's design of light switches; Britax-Excelsior from Surrey for its design of a safety yachting harness; Vango of Glasgow for its design of a "stowaway" rubber dinghy; Ian Proctor Design from Devon for the company's dinghy paddle; and Goodwin Wheeler Associates of London for its plastic seating for bus stops and stations.

For Britax it is the third time that it has qualified for such an award, the previous ones being given for an industrial harness and a heated mirror designed for commercial vehicle. The company has also gained a double this year by qualifying for an award in motoring designs for its rear view demister.

Union fears effects of microchip on office jobs

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

A 30-hour, four-day working week is necessary if employment levels are to be protected, according to the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex). In a report published yesterday, the association challenges the view that the microprocessor will create as many jobs as did the computer technology of the 1960s.

The report says that Apex is concerned with the impact of the new microelectronic technology on the office workers who make up its membership. New technology, compared with the 1960s computer technology, is cheap and is being introduced at a time of recession and rising unemployment, it says.

The impact of the new technology will affect young people, older workers and women the most, the report claims. "The trade unions must throw their strength into the fight to prevent women office workers from becoming the principal victims of the reckless implementation of computerized technology".

The union rejects the view of the Department of Employment that the impact of microelectronics will be gradual and would not justify a radical restructuring of government policies.

Apex believes that there must be intervention by the Government and the European Community to help job creation, and better provision for those made redundant, including training for new skill.

Apex welcomes the increased output, productivity and improved living standards which microelectronic technology will make possible, but greater output the wealth does not automatically lead to improved living standards, employment, opportunities and working conditions for the majority, it says.

Automation and the office worker, Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, 22 Worple Road, London, S.W.19.

Government bonus goes to investment managers

Gilt lining for unit trust industry

It's usually bad things which come in threes, but not always—as the unit trust industry is ready to testify. Others in the City may have reservations about this administration, but for the unit trust industry Mrs Thatcher's Government has been good news. Like a fairy godmother, she has granted the industry's every wish and thrown in an unlooked for gift as a bonus.

Just before Christmas, unit trust charges were freed from the restrictions imposed more than 20 years ago. In the Budget, along with investment trusts, unit trusts were made exempt from capital gains tax.

And two nights ago, just as the Commons was about to rise, Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced an important change effectively enabling the unit trust industry to offer at long last funds specializing in gilt edged securities and other fixed interest investments.

This long overdue reform (to be included in the Finance Bill) does not herald an immediate block-busting campaign by unit trust managers

Much as they would welcome the creation of such funds, the Inland Revenue's approach means they must delay their plans.

Many management groups had shell fixed interest unit trusts waiting on the shelves in anticipation of just such a change in legislation. Unfortunately none of them will quite fit the bill. A different trust deed, restricting investment to private individuals and limiting investments to United Kingdom securities only, will be required.

Even the handful of existing gilt funds (marketed for capital growth, not income) will need their trust deeds amended in order to pay basic rate tax of 30 per cent on their unfranked income instead of corporation tax at 52 per cent.

And here's the rub (in the best of fairy tales there's always a catch) the Department of Trade is already snowed under with applications, some 50 or more, to change existing trust deeds thanks to the earlier dispensation to derestrict charges.

It is going to take several months before the new gilt funds will be able to roll off the production line. So the unit trust industry, at least, will not be too disappointed if, in the meantime, interest rates don't fall.

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Margaret Stone

Building talks in jeopardy

By John Huxley

The future of the Group of Eight, which represents the construction industry in informal talks with the Government, is again in jeopardy. Mr George Henderson, national secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union construction and crafts group, yesterday withdrew from today's group meeting with Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Mr Henderson, one of two union representatives of the group, is considering whether to withdraw permanently. In recent months he has become increasingly dissatisfied with talks with ministers which he feels have failed to avert further cuts in the industry's workload.

The group, which also includes representatives from the employers' organizations and the professions, only recently persuaded the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians to return to membership.

PRICE CHANGES

...trials	4p to 36p	Audiotronic	1p to 4p
...Gold	13p to 21p	East Dagga	15c to 145c
...Corp	20c to 470c	Grootvlei	5c to 730c
	50p to 925p	Hampton Gold	5c to 348c
	25p to 515p	Marievale Cons	8c to 395c
...Grp	7p to 97p	MTD (Mangula)	10c to 610c
...an	7p to 70p	Pickles W.	1p to 11p
	20c to 633c	Vlakfontein	8c to 245c
...ng Ref	20p to 260p	Whatlings	1p to 17p
...SSW	1p to 14p	W. Rand Cons	10c to 610c

THE POUND

...m bns	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
...ld	2.04	1.97	Norway Kr	11.60	11.10
...Sch	31.10	29.60	Portugal Esc	113.00	107.00
...Fr	72.00	68.50	S Africa Rd	1.90	1.77
...	2.62	2.55	Spain Pta	159.00	152.00
...Kr	13.45	12.94	Sweden Kr	10.00	9.60
...Mkk	8.74	8.34	Switzerland Fr	4.17	3.95
...r	10.00	9.60	USA $	2.19	2.13
...Dm	4.39	4.17	Yugoslavia Dnr	52.50	49.50
...Dr	90.75	86.75			
...g $	11.18	10.73			
...Dl	1.15	1.11			
...	1990.00	1900.00			
...	567.00	542.00			
...nds Gld	4.79	4.56			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Uncertainty over US indicators

The United States Commerce Department's index of leading economic indicators for February suggests that the economy was faltering even before the government's March round of fiscal and monetary curbs.

The department said the index fell 0.2 per cent in February, the fifth consecutive monthly decline, after drops of 0.3 per cent each in January and December.

The February drop left the index 4 per cent below last September's level.

Chrysler finance

Mitsubishi Motors of Japan has said it will continue to finance exports of its cars to Chrysler in April because Chrysler and seven Japanese banks have been unable to reach an agreement on credit arrangements.

Japan oil target

Japan saved 94.3 million barrels of oil last year, achieving the International Energy Agency conservation target of 5 per cent, the Natural Resources and Energy Agency said yesterday.

New Jakarta airport

The French Government will lend 900m francs (£95m) for building a new international airport in Jakarta. The airport is to be built 13 miles west of the city centre and is expected to cost about £146m.

Opec meeting

Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's oil minister, has confirmed that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will hold a special meeting in Taif, Saudi Arabia, starting on May 5.

GM raises car prices

General Motors is to raise car prices by an average of 2.2 per cent from today.

Petrochemicals growth

Exxon forecasts an average annual growth rate of 5 per cent worldwide for petrochemicals in the 1980s, down slightly from the previous decade.

Consortium believes London site could become technological centre

Town of the future on the Thames

A new technology town could spring up on the site of the former Surrey Docks in the Southwark loop of the Thames downstream of the Tower of London. Just as the City of London is the centre of financial expertise and resources, so the new Southwark site could become a focus for Britain's technological expertise, with a climate of innovation without precedent in this country.

This is the view of the Southwark Quays Group, a consortium of six organizations which has put in one of 15 proposals for the redevelopment of all or part of the 120-acre site. The Greater London Council and the London Borough of Southwark, joint owners of the site, are expected to narrow the 15 down to a short-list of five by the end of this month.

Most of the proposals offer various mixtures of shopping, offices, industry and housing. Trade centres and hotels are also featured. The Associated Dairies proposal includes a theme park whose themes could include the space age and British history.

Lysander Estates would install a monorail link across the Thames to Wapping. Albion Exhibition Centre would devote the entire site to a national exhibition centre. Earth Life Centre would create an alternative energy centre linked to educational facilities and new technology development and manufacture.

But the Southwark Quays scheme is particularly interesting in its approach in that it offers a solution to a national need as well as to th local one. Small innovative companies would be encouraged to set up in business on the site, with the intellectual if not financial support of neightbouring research, development and educational units.

The postgraduate Cranfield Institute of Technology is interested in setting up an international short-course centre as part of the Southwark Quays development. An industrial design centre is envisaged, together with a campus for electronic technology.

To ease the problem of communications to the site, Southwark Quays favour the use of wa waterbus service along the Thames—'London's High Street for many centuries". A canal following the line of several of the former docks would in turn provide a High Street for the site itself, from which pedestrian paths would radiate out into the various areas.

'The canal boulevard with its quays, trees and cafes and three-storey buildings, forms the backbone to the scheme and gives it an identifiable sense of place," the proposal states. Between 12,000 and 17,000 jobs could be created, for a total investment estimated at about £354m.

An area on the site is envisaged where workers in science-based industries and the new technologies may meet to design, test, manufacture and promote their ideas and products.

The schemet would include factories, warehouses and offices; a district shopping centre and street market; residential accommodation; workshops and research facilities for electronics, new technology and software firms; craft industries; graduate and job training centres; research institutions: a conference and exhibition complex; and a roll-on/rool-off terminal to serve the area.

"Our scheme is concerned with the reversal of the present repulsive image of the inner city by generating a new urban environment that will attract workers," Mr Ray Moxley, project coordinator for Southwark Quays, said.

"Wet reject the accountants' architecture and repetitive boxes of postwar London and seek a human scale more akin to Old Bloomsbury than London Wall; the tree-lined central canal of the scheme with its shops and cafes will form an Amsterdam type of focus for the new workshops, laboratories, the assembly and distributive studios, the homes and hostels, the recreation areas, al creating a new living community in town."

Members of the group are St Mary at Hill Properties; Westminster Architects Consortium; Knight Frank & Rutley, property consultants; Peat Marwick Mitchell, management consultants; Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons, main contractors; and Andrews, Kent & Stone, consulting engineers.

"Two-thirds the size of Venice, two miles from the City of London," Mr Moxley enthused yesterday. "It is a marvellous opportunity."

Kenneth Owen

Leyland and National link on Titan bus plant

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Vehicles has solved the problem of where it should produce the Titan double-decker bus. It is combining forces with the National Bus Company to build a £4m factory adjoining the jointly-owned Workington plant.

The Titan was launched more than two years ago with great hopes that its fully-integrated construction—as opposed to traditional chassis and custom-built bodies—would lend itself to assembly-line methods and go a long way toward meeting the chronic shortage of double-deckers.

However productivity at the Park Royal factory in North London was so poor and the workforce so uncooperative that six months ago Mr David Abell, chairman and managing director of Leyland Vehicles, decided to close the plant and find a new home for Titan.

The phased closure will be completed in about two months with the loss of 600 jobs. In a belated and unsuccessful attempt to reverse this decision Park Royal workers have improved output in recent months and are now close to the plant target of seven Titans a week.

The new home originally selected was Eastern Coachworks at Lowestoft, which is also jointly-owned with National Bus, but problems with the workforce over the acceptance of semi-skilled labour meant that this was unsuccessful.

Finally Leyland turned to the Workington plant, which has been producing the very successful Leyland National single-deck bus since 1972. It has one of the best labour relations records in the whole of BL and its workers are experienced in integral construction work.

Work has already started on the building of a 90,000 sq ft factory which is due for completion by the end of the year. It will provide 275 new jobs in an area of high unemployment.

To reduce the break in Titan production the partners are renting a disused 25,000 sq ft factory, near by, for pilot production and worker training. Even so, Titan will be out of production for about 10 months—until next April.

Leyland has already lost orders to rival bus makers, notably Metro Cammell and Volvo, because of the interruption, but it still claims to have orders for over 900 Titans. Nearly 200 are already in service with London Transport and other bus operators have about 40.

Workington will have capacity for about 14 Titans a week when it is in full production.

£10m training plan for development areas

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Plans for spending £10m to promote a training scheme for companies investing in special development areas were outlined yesterday by the Government.

Mr David Mitchel, Parialmentary Under Secretary of State for Industry, announced that a new scheme of regional selective assistance had been drawn up for immediate implementation. Using funds under Section 7 of the Industry Act, companies will be able to secure assistance towards certain in-plant training costs.

The costs of the scheme were covered by the provisions made last week in the Government's Expenditure White Paper which expects a substantial reduction in the levels of regional assistance and industrial support schemes over the next four years.

The scheme will be applied on a selective basis. Assistance will only be provided by the Department of Industry where projects would not otherwise go ahead, and will embrace manufacturing projects providing a minimum of 25 jobs in the two grades of assisted areas.

According to Mr Mitchell the scheme will finance training for between 7,000 and 10,000 jobs a year and clearly is designed to have a big impact on areas where traditional industries are being run down.

Assuming that the Government's hopes for the creation of small businesses are realized, those companies moving into special development areas which have been developed to take account of steelworks closures will be among the first beneficiaries.

Half of the gross costs of the scheme will be met by the the balance, it is hoped, will be made up from EEC Commission funds.

Whitehall officials have been discussing details of the scheme with the Commission and the indications are that the additional cash will be made available from the European Social Fund.

Although the prime requirement to qualify for the training scheme assistance will be the creation of jobs, companies which are diversifying into new products or employing new production techniques which will preserve existing jobs will also be eligible for aid.

Last night the industry department stressed that assistance would be limited to cases where the training element was essential to the success of the project.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unemployment problems in terms of real wages

From Dr John Drewe

Sir, In his letter of March 25, Professor G. W. Maynard postulates that involuntary unemployment could be reduced if workers were willing to accept a cut in real wages.

This assumes, first, that there is a direct measure between prices and wages, and secondly that profitability is always directly related to labour costs. The first assumption is contentious, and the second is untrue unless the industry is labour intensive.

In many sectors of high technology industry, it is capital plant and research equipment which constitute the major outlay, while labour costs are comparatively trivial. Certainly British products are becoming progressively less competitive than their foreign counterparts, but often one has to look no further than the fact that the productivity of the worker depends on the capital invested.

There is a reduced incentive to invest in both research and more modern plant now that, in the absence of exchange controls, a higher return can be obtained by investing abroad, where inflation is lower. In addition, many avenues of research, which are in the long term essential to the survival of a high-technology business, are becoming too costly to pursue, while our foreign competitors in many cases receive considerable assistance from their governments.

This assistance is in the form of substantial research contracts (for example, from Nasa) which enable private groups to make profitable advances in technology with a low outlay of their capital; favourable taxation for a new technology industry in its formative years, and effective protection against foreign competition, particularly in America and Japan.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DREWE,
52 Leeside Crescent,
Golders Green,
London NW11.
March 25.

Relation of earnings to business results

From Mr Duncan H. Wood

Sir, George Copeman presents an eloquent case for relating earnings to the results of a business, preferably through shareholdings. But I fear that his advocacy of the two dimensional grid as a way of overcoming the problems of large size ignores the practical problems of the concept.

We have used such grids for many years not merely to link the company-wide results to those of a smaller unit. One can also use the same principle to link different measures, eg, added value per £ employee costs with added value per £ capital employed, or added value to staff costs with added value to direct costs. Equally it is possible to apply a gearing factor to give more importance to one of the two measures.

The approach is useful as a way of communicating results or management goals (the fundamental purpose of pay) but if it determines pay then the outcome may be divisive. Thus with one company we found that the grid would give larger bonus payments to those whose work was being made easier—a forecast which was as unacceptable to the beneficiaries as it would have been to their colleagues in other parts of the company.

Three key requirements which the article ignores are, first, the need to involve employees in the initial design of the plan—the *how* as distinct from the *how much*—and in its subsequent monitoring. Secondly the need before launching such a plan to invest as much time in looking at forward projections as is usually given to analysing past results. Finally to recognize that as management consultants we are misleading our clients to describe these plans as "incentives" with the implication that they can operate in the same way as traditional PBR schemes. They cannot. They can only contribute to the growth of new attitudes, but many of us, including I am sure, George Copeman, believe that this is by far the most important objective of a payment scheme.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN H. WOOD,
Director,
Binder Hamlyn Fry & Co,
Management Consultants,
227-228 Strand,
London.
March 27.

Mortgage rate and financial hardship

From the Secretary General, the Building Societies Association.

Sir, The Director of Sh (Mr Neil McIntosh) statec March 21 that his organiza was "already helping fam in severe financial difficu because of the record mort rate" and that "some of t families have defaulted on mortgages, had their h repossessed and found t selves homeless".

Shelter has not, how been able to produce to association any evidence this is in fact happening. I wish to reiterate that nc will be turned out of his h simply on account of the r increase in the mortgage r

Building societies are tensely sympathetic when i cial hardship can be de strated by a borrower and do everything to help him, to the point of allowing debt on his mortgage ac to rise temporarily.

Yours faithfully,
N. E. GRIGGS,
Secretary-General,
The Building Societies Association,
34 Park Street,
London W1Y 3PF.

Delay to Land-Rover delivery

From Mr Bancroft Clark

Sir, I ordered June 4, through a reputable mot retailing company one Rover 88 Petrol Full L Tilt, this is the basic Rover. I was offered and a to delivery between Marc May 1980. I asked in Feb whether these dates hel was told I could now e delivery between July October, 1980. This is 14 months from the date of

BANCROFT CLARK,
1 Middleleigh,
Street,
Somerset.
March 31.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.

ROBECO

ROTTERDAMSCH BELEGGINGSCONSORTIUM N.V.

With reference to the announcement dated 26 March 1980 concerning the Final Dividend in Cash on Sub-shares registered in the name of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited the rate of exchange for the payment of this dividend is Fls. 4.5575=£1.00.

UNITED KINGDOM RESIDENTS

The gross dividend is £0.19747868 per Sub-share and is subject to the following deductions :—

15% Dutch Tax	=£0.02962180 per Sub-share
15% U.K. Tax	=£0.02962180 per Sub-share
Exchange and M.N. Comm.	=£0.00267566 per Sub-share
Net Payment	=£0.13555943 per Sub-share

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Where 25% Dutch Tax is applicable, the following deductions apply :—

25% Dutch Tax	=£0.04936917 per Sub-share
30% U.K. Tax on net dividend (when applicable)	=£0.04443226 per Sub-share
Exchange and M.N. Comm.	=£0.00267566 per Sub-share
Net Payment	=£0.10999980 per Sub-share

Where 15% Dutch Tax is applicable the calculations are as for United Kingdom Residents, but relief from United Kingdom tax is immediately obtained provided that the appropriate Inland Revenue Affidavit is lodged with the claim.

COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

PIONEER MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the members of this Company will be held at PIONEER HOUSE, 16 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 0NY, on FRIDAY, 25th APRIL, 1980, at 12 noon for the purpose of transacting the following business: 1. To receive the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1979. 2. To re-elect Mr C. White as a Director. 3. To re-appoint Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co as Auditors to the Company and authorise the directors to determine their remuneration. 4. To transact any other business of an Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board,
D. BLEAZARD,
Secretary.
2nd April, 1980

A member entitled to attend and vote may appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy must be a member of the Company.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

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£1,000,000 BLS. issued 14.4.80 maturing 17.9.80 at 16¾ per cent. Applic. Tot. £6,000,000 and there are £5,000,000 BLS. outstanding.

LEGAL NOTICES

No 2310 of 1979

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE in bankruptcy. In the matter of a BANKRUPTCY PETITION filed the 7th day of December 1979.

To John Lee (lately trading at Woodcocks Potato Merchants) and lately carrying on business at Somerville Farm, Dunt Lane, Hurst in the County of Berkshire as a Potato Merchant but whose present place of residence the Petitioning Creditor is unable to ascertain and whose present occupation is unknown take notice, that a BANKRUPTCY PETITION has been presented against you in this Court by Scott and Newman Limited whose registered office is at Wem, Wem, Shrewsbury in the County of Salop and the Court has ordered that the publication of this notice in the London Gazette and in The Times Newspaper and the Fruit Trades Journal shall be deemed to be service of the Petition upon you; and further take notice that the said Petition will be heard at this Court on the 6th day of May 1980 at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, on which day you are required to appear, and if you do not appear the Court may make a Receiving Order against you in your absence.

The PETITION can be inspected by you on application at this Court.

Dated this 25th day of March 1980.

A. J. WHEATON
Registrar.

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE LEPROSY MISSION

The Annual General Meeting of Members of the Leprosy Mission (International) will be held at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W.C.2, on Thursday, 1st May, 1980, at 4.45 p.m., to receive the Annual Report and audited abstracts of accounts of the year ended 31st December, 1979, to elect office-bearers and appoint Council Members, and to transact any other business as circumstances require. The Leprosy Mission England and Wales will hold its Thirteenth Annual Meeting on Thursday, 1st May, 1980, at 4.00 p.m. at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W.C.2, for the presentation of the Annual Report, and the election of Council for the ensuing year.

The Joint Annual Public Meeting of the Leprosy Mission will follow at 6.30 p.m.

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968

The Church Commissioners have prepared draft pastoral schemes providing for declaring redundant the churches of St Jude, Hanley (Lichfield diocese); St Paul, Alnwick (Newcastle diocese); and St Mary, Leyisham (York diocese) and a draft redundancy scheme providing for appropriating the church of St Thomas, Brightside (Sheffield diocese), to use as a gymnasium and for ancillary purposes. Copies of the draft schemes can be obtained from, and any representations should be sent within 28 days of the publication of this notice to, the Commissioners, at 1 Millbank, London, SW1P 3JZ.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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U.S.A. communications company wants a long-term, 15-20 years, loan of US$100 million or more at reasonable interest rate. U.S. Government securities and loan guarantees available for collateral. Brokers protested.

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NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

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REQUIRED

GERMAN female teacher (30 wants to improve her Eng knowledge would like to live an English family as a p guest and also have a job July.—Gisela Zwiener, Von tender, 50,5000 Köln 1. Ger

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

A taste for gilts

l banks may feel that they are ing something by pumping vast quan- of dollars into foreign exchange ts. The Japanese, for instance, are red to have sold anything up to n since Friday. But many outsiders nical.

east the Bank of England has not nder the same sort of temptation with g continuing to show considerable e strength. It may have fallen by just per cent against the dollar over the onth, but the trade-weighted index is an 1½ per cent down and appreciation the Deutschemark, for example, has ver 4 per cent.

y's March reserve figures may give a better indication as to how far any "smoothing" may have gone, but, he already acute pressures in short- oney markets, it is probably just as at the authorities have not needed to sterling on any great scale.

is, the authorities have had to defer uled recall of special deposits for the me (this time from mid-April to mid- and with the funding machine back ar yesterday, they may also have to rward this month's planned repur- f gilts by the clearing banks.

inly, money markets expect the tightness to extend right through nth and with three month interbank to 18¼ per cent yesterday (and States primes at 19¾ per cent lost the authorities remain in a delicate

rday's exhaustion of the remaining o of the long "tap" should, however, iven them some more general nce after last week's disappointing esponse to the Budget. It remains to how quietly they will provide a nent stock.

y well be that the April money s reasonably well under control On the other hand, there is a on to have a partly paid stock in tet in time for next Thursday's bank- es which are generally expected to at the moment there is no funding post mid-April.

Panel and Raper

publication of yesterday's state- St Piran, the Panel on Takeovers gers has swung the big guns round rloo. For this is going to be the case rmines whether the Panel is a force koned with, or simply a sop to the conscience of the City.

nel's case against Mr Raper, former of St Piran, is that he and parties m he has been acting in concert, merely retained the 34 per cent ding in the company which he in 1974, but have augmented it d that, in consequence, they are make an offer for the remainder of s under Rule 34 of the City Code.

estion now is what the Panel is do about it. The answer, it appears, t for "a reasonable time" to see Messrs Raper and others come up goods, and failing that, whether be induced—if necessary under the suspension of the shares (which worry them, but certainly worries any's bankers)—to dissipate their or to sell them on to someone who pared to make the offer required.

ion, unfortunately, is likely to hurt suffering independent shareholders mpany quite as much as the bunch l accuses of exercising *de facto* their possible detriment.

me will tell if this tough talk must ll—be followed by equally tough eanwhile, it is regrettable that the ld not have chosen better ground oving fight. Its case against Messrs d company is strong, but not con- it is largely based on circumstantial ; and Mr Raper's supposed s deny it.

d Bank ghts for ture

Bank's annual report makes it clear group is still in search of the elusive n in the United States. Congress stop on foreign acquisitions of banks until July and the possi- that the ban will be extended, y in an election year.

hile, the Midland has had to content itself with expansion in France where its wholesale subsidiary is now operating and where it has acquired control of BCT, a bank specialising in property which hit a rough patch a few years ago. In any case Midland's strong links with correspondent banks throughout the world is to some extent a substitute for real expansion overseas.

An analysis of the split of deposits shows that last year the level of currency deposits has grown from 25 to 34 per cent, a reflection of Midland's efforts on the currency markets. Significantly, too, the level of

Lord Armstrong of Sanderstead, chairman of the Midland Bank.

current accounts as a percentage of sterling deposits has shrunk from 41 to 36 per cent, perhaps explaining why the Midland might think about changing the cost structure of its current deposits.

So, a modest profit improvement this year —say from £315m to £330m—would put the shares at 320p on a prospective fully taxed p/e ratio of no more than 3½ and would yield over 10 per cent if the dividend rose by around 15 per cent. This is not a high rating for a leading clearer even if interest rates do fall in the near future.

● *The unheralded inclusion of new rules in the forthcoming Finance Bill which will enable a new kind of unit trust to emerge to deal in fixed interest securities should do much to revive the ailing spirits, not to mention sales of the unit trust industry. Its inability to market gilt-edged unit trusts, because of the extra tax burden it placed on unitholders, has been a major impediment to progress.*

In the past the Whitehall line has always been that to open up the gilt market to unit trusts would detract from the Government's own direct sales to the public. To the extent that the new arrangements effectively preclude mixed equity and gilt funds, it seems likely in fact, that sales of the new gilt funds, which should hit the market in a few months' time will indeed come from existing fixed interest investors—not necessarily in gilts—looking for professional management, rather than equity investors looking for extra cream from their high income funds.

The advent of domestic gilt funds should not have too great an impact on the £170m offshore gilt fund sector, which will still be able to offer income gross, a proven investment record and probably lower charges.

Imperial

Doubts about Ho-Jo

Imperial Group's American takeover aspirations seem to be crumbling; dealings in Howard Johnson stock re-opened on Monday *at just over $14 on Wall Street, half the bid* value of Imperial's bid terms, and was only slightly higher yesterday.

At present all shareholders know is what Sir John Pile, the outgoing Imperial chairman, said last week that there are "questions still to be answered" on the deal.

Imperial, sitting on investments, mainly gilts, of £350m, is a solid income stock, yielding 13.1 per cent and will undoubtedly make much better profits in the current year if the Ho-Jo bid fails than if it succeeds if only because of the penal borrowing costs involved at present.

But if the Ho-Jo bid is off, Imperial, after four years of static profits, will surely have to produce some alternatives.

One may be a scheme to pay out part of its cash mountain to shareholders.

Meanwhile, any withdrawal at this stage will not help the credibility of Imperial's strategy among investors on both sides of the Atlantic.

How capable is the EEC of coping with a recession?

Peter Norman suggests that the Community is in a weaker state than in 1975 to face a fresh economic downturn

There are still those who are waiting for evidence of a recession in the United States before predicting a global downturn, but the feeling seems to be gathering strength among western central banks and Treasury officials that 1981 could prove a more testing time for the world economy than 1975, when recession affected virtually all leading industrial countries.

And even though the true recession in the United States may not get underway before the end of this year, the effects of United States policy are already spillin gover on to continental Europe. Britain, until now the sole obvious candidate for recession in the European Community, could prove to be just the forerunner of a downturn affecting all the EEC states.

The possibility of Europe moving into recession prompts the question therefore as to what can be done to achieve an eventual recovery.

Patent remedies for the world's economic ills come and go like disco crazes. Having captured the imagination of economic policy makers for several months, the "soft landing" could now be about to take the same road to oblivion as the "convoy" and "locomotive" theories before it.

The soft landing was that comforting theory whereby economic activity in the West would run down gently into a shallow recession from which a managed recovery would be fairly easy to achieve.

But President Jimmy Carter's belated but stringent counter inflation policy, following last year's big increase in oil prices, probably means that the next recession will be deeper and the fall into it steeper than anticipated.

Senior central bank and Treasury officials from the leading industrial nations of the West had a first opportunity to assess the world economic outlook in the light of the Carter package at a series of meetings held under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris late last month.

To bring on a recession is what the tough credit policy of Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the United States federal reserve board, is all about. The United States economy has been sustained in recent months by consumer spending, in itself an expression of an inflationary mentality. Real interest rates *are the primary method of* curbing these trends.

The problem is that Mr Volcker's policy has also restored confidence in the dollar thus forcing other countries to try and match the high America interest rates or court a flight of funds from their own currencies and the attendant dangers of depreciation and imported inflation.

The effects have been grotesque in the case of some of the traditionally hard currency countries that participate in the European Monetary System. Belgium, for example, has an inflation rate of around 6.6 per cent at present. Its bank rate stands at 14 per cent, while a first class corporate borrower is having to pay overdraft rates of about 20 per cent, making the real cost of borrowed funds around 13 per cent.

In West Germany, where the year-to-year consumer price rise is still just under 6 per cent, the federal government is having to pay nearly 10 per cent for medium-term funds.

Belgium has already been hit by a rash of business failures, particularly in the traditionally interest rate sensitive areas of construction and retailing. In West Germany, where there is still a carry over of last year's strong growth performance, government officials are forecasting hard times for small and medium-sized manufacturers spreading next year to the construction, automobile and investment goods sectors.

The combination of the volcker credit squeeze and the strong dollar is threatening the economies of those EEC countries with low inflation rates at a time when major industrial countries like Britain, France and Italy with double digit inflation have no alternative but to give priority in policy to combating rising prices.

In general the EEC is facing the prospect of a new world recession in a weaker state than it entered the recession of 1975. Europe will be moving into 1981 with a higher underlying rate of inflation and higher level of unemployment than six years before.

It is expected that the surplus of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries —estimated at $120,000m this year—will prove more difficult to eradicate than after the oil price rises of 1973-74. Not only will the Opec states adjust their oil output to avoid the reappearance of production surpluses, but the revolution in Iran should continue to put a brake on ambitious development programmes in Islamic states that otherwise would have absorbed western manufactured goods.

But perhaps more disturbing is the argument that the EEC will not be able to spend its way out of recession in the same way that member states boosted domestic demand after 1975.

Just as the oil crisis of 1973 and 1974 was followed by only limited savings of energy, so the recovery from the recession of 1975 produced only a partial cutback in the level of public borrowing in the member states of the EEC.

The net central government borrowing requirement as a percentage of gross domestic product in the EEC rose from 3 per cent in 1974 to 5.9 per cent i nthe recession year of 1975 although it was cut back subsequently to 3.2 per cent in 1977. By last yea rit had crept back upwards 4.6 per cent.

It is significant that West Germany, which has the soundest economy of any of the EEC members states, has been clamping down on public expenditure since the beginning of this year.

So far concern that Europe might be lacking in ammunition to combat recession has been expressed at the level of senior officials only. But pressure can now be expected to build up for the world economic summit in Venice in June to consider the threat of recession.

For if the West cannot devise a strategy in time, individual countries could seek the answer in protectionism.

John Huxley

Dutch pay the price for their cheap gas policy

Since natural gas was first discovered in the vast North Sea Groningen field in 1959, The Netherlands has become almost synonomous with gas in any analysis of the European energy scene.

Politicians and economists seeking to make the most advantageous use of Britain's North Sea oil and gas riches have frequently sought pointers in the experience of the Dutch over the past 20 years.

About 85 per cent of Duch homes rely on gas for heating and about 80 per cent of industry uses gas. Altogether gas meets more than half of total energy needs in The Netherlands.

At the same time, the country is the world's largest gas exporter, supplying Western Europe with 41 per cent of its needs. Yet the history of the exploitation of these immense resources—proven reserves at the beginning of last year totalled 1,739,000 million cubic metres —is a cautionary tale.

The Dutch now face the prospect of paying more for the gas they have begun to import to conserve the precious Groningen resources than they are paid for the Groningen gas it exports.

Mr Gijs van Aardenne, the Economics Minister, recently even threatened to cut off gas supplies to West Germany, France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland if higher prices are not agreed.

The muddle started in the depletion policy adopted by the Dutch in the 1960s. It was feared that unless gas was recovered and sold off rapidly, The Netherlands could—in the words of Gasunie, the national distribution company half-owned by the Dutch state—"be stuck with our buried treasure".

Dutch energy experts remain understandably defensive about the decisions taken 20 years ago. They argue that only in retrospect can they justifiably be criticized for committing so much gas so early, and thereby closing other energy options. They accept, however, that what now appears a short-sighted readiness to serve immediate ends has far-reaching *lessons for all those involved* in exploiting precious natural resources.

Gasunie explained recently: "In the 1960s the notion of energy abundance prevailed. Moreover, people thought very highly of the advent and significance of nuclear energy. Thus in the gas marketing plan from that period, gas sales policy was directed at fast penetration of natural gas into domestic energy supply and export of considerable quantities of gas."

Then in the mid-1970s came huge Opec-inspired oil price rises. There was a sudden change of policy embodied in the government's 1974 memorandum on energy, which called for increased conservation, expansion of nuclear power and coal use and the reduction of natural gas depletion to minimum levels consistent with existing contracts, some of which were due to run for up to 25 years.

There had been a sudden recognition that The Netherlands was sitting on an increasingly scarce and expensive resource, whose depletion had to be more carefully controlled.

No new natural gas sales contracts are being entered into and customers have been told that existing contracts will not be renewed. Shortfalls were to be met by imported oil and gas. Between 1974 and 1978 import contracts for about 100,000 million cubic metres of gas were concluded.

An attempt was made to *index-link gas prices with oil*, but the system still does not function efficiently.

There is now a new gas marketing plan, in which an attempt has been made to chart energy demand and supply up to the year 2003. The general aim, according to Gasunie, is to "continue the supply of natural gas in The Netherlands for as long as possible in an economically justified manner".

The main plank is conservation of the low-cost Groningen resources for the most efficient users and as a strategic reserve. Intensive surveying and exploitation of smaller natural gas reserves within The Netherlands is also being pursued.

The supply of liquid natural gas has been negotiated with Algeria and Norway and talks about further imports are being held with the Soviet Union, Iran, Nigeria and Middle East countries.

Domestic conservation policies have been reinforced. The sales strategy is aimed at securing supplies for the most efficient users, with no increase in supplies for burning in power stations.

The energy conservation target is to reduce energy inputs per unit of output by 10 per cent between 1977 and 1985, and by a further 20 per cent before the end of the century. An expensive national insulation programme is being undertaken to reduce household heating requirements.

The government's 1979 energy strategy also assumed a greater role in meeting the nation's energy requirements for coal and oil, and nuclear power, but each poses particular problems. Environmental objections are likely to make a switch to dirtier coal resources a slow and probably painful process.

The Netherlands has only meagre oil reserves and is disturbed by the prospect of buying in supplies on a market which is increasingly dominated by government-to-government deals.

Equally, there is no indication that, after many years of delay, there will be any immediate progress in the nuclear power station programme given the strength of public feeling about its safety.

But the more immediate problem for The Netherlands is not a shortage of energy so much as the price it and its customers should pay. In the area of natural gas, this problem has become critical in recent weeks.

On the one side, the Dutch now face long delays in obtaining supplies from Algeria under the terms of a contract signed with the state energy group Sonatrach. On the other, measures are being taken to make it technically possible for The Netherlands to stop gas going to its West European neighbours if they continue to refuse to agree to price rises.

Of *course, many countries* would willingly have the problem of the Dutch. After all, natural gas still provides almost 10 per cent of government revenue, although its contribution is falling. And the existence of such reserves—dwindling though they may be—should provide a basis for security, if not prosperity in the energy-hungry eighties and nineties.

But it is a continuing irony of the Dutch energy equation that the present pricing system —by which there is a delayed adjustment of gas prices to cover part of crude price rises —means that Dutch consumers are paying more for gas than foreign customers—at a time when the government, along with other western nations, is facing financial difficulties.

The million dollar campaign trail

Frank Vogl

Washington

Thousands of dollars will again have been paid out yesterday to cover the contenders' costs in the Wisconsin primary contest in the United States.

Money is changing hands fast in the Presidential election campaign.

American elections are big business. Costs run into tens of millions of dollars as contracts are made with public relations firms, advertising agencies, television and radio companies, car and bus rental concerns and charter airlines. A one-minute television commercial can cost $50,000, and the presidential campaigns this year may cost over $200m.

The biggest *bite out of the* campaign budgets goes to advertising. There are *specialized* companies with years of experience in making radio and television commercials *which know how to split the* advertising budgets between radio, television, newspapers and magazines to the best advantage.

One such expert is Mr Elliot Curson, whose private advertising agency in Philadelphia has been planning and producing television commercials for Mr Ronald Reagan, the former Governor of California, who leads the race to become the Republican Party's Presidential candidate in November's election. Another is the Goodman agency in Baltimore, which has been recruited by the campaign for Mr George Bush, another seeker of the Republican nomination. And then *there is Rafshoon communications.*

Mr Gerald Rafshoon's claim to fame is that he played an important role in 1976 in masterminding one of the most brilliant presidential marketing strategies of all time—the Jimmy Carter selling plan. For a time Mr Rafshoon left his private advertising agency to advise the *President from* within the White House on improving his public image, down to influencing Mr Carter to change his hairstyle and grin less before the television cameras.

Mr Rafshoon is now back in the private sector, running a three-man office in Washington whose sole client is the Carter campaign.

While advertising is the biggest single outlay, another is staff salaries and expenses. The Carter campaign employs about 300 people and roughly 100 of these are in the "travelling circus", moving from state to state as the primary elections develop. As they go, they run up bills at Avis, Hertz and other car rental companies and at hotels and office buildings, where they rent space for short periods.

Travel costs alone can run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mr Woodward says he handed over a $100,000 cheque at one point in the 1976 campaign to United Air Lines. Now, when Mrs Carter and vice-president Mondale go on the campaign trail (the President says that he will not campaign outside Washington until the hostages are released in Iran), they fly in an official presidential jet—but they have to pay for it as it is being used for a political campaign. The cost works out at slightly less than that of privately chartering an aircraft.

One of the most modest campaigns for some time was that of Congressman John Anderson, the dark horse liberal Republican contender. Early in the campaign he had so little financial support that he had to take taxis, but now that his primary showings have been better than expected, private citizens are sending cash and he has a limousine and driver.

Mr Harry Koplin, a member *of the Anderson Campaign* staff, said that expenditure in February alone amounted to $833,697, a rough break-down of this was: $492,634 on advertising, $133,000 on salaries, $50,000 on telephones, $75,000 on travel and accommodation and the remainder on renting office space, printing and postage.

A lot of money goes into the money-raising business itself *and here too* there are some expert firms with valuable mailing lists and experience of knowing just how to phrase a letter to win a contribution. Nothing is more gruelling for the candidates than raising cash, as they consume one rubbery chicken after another and make speeches to the faithful who pay $100 or more for the honour of eating with the candidate.

But candidates that do get reasonable public support can receive matching funds from the Federal Election Commission, which carefully monitors the campaign expenses of all the candidates. This money is a great help.

According to the latest reports for candidates still in the race, as filed with the commission late last month, the total spending so far of the Carter campaign has been $6,400,000. As to the others it has been $5,300,000 for Senator Kennedy, $9,600,000 for Mr Reagan, $1,400,000 for Governor *Jerry Brown of California*, $6,700,000 for Mr Bush, and $1,400,000 for Mr Anderson.

Business Diary: Belch's next move? ● B Cal over Cathay

ber of directorships Ross Belch is rucking belt suggest that his of the chair and director's job at Scott cannot long be Belch, who is the boss tish Shipbuilders' sub- n the lower Clyde, his intention to leave my earlier this year.

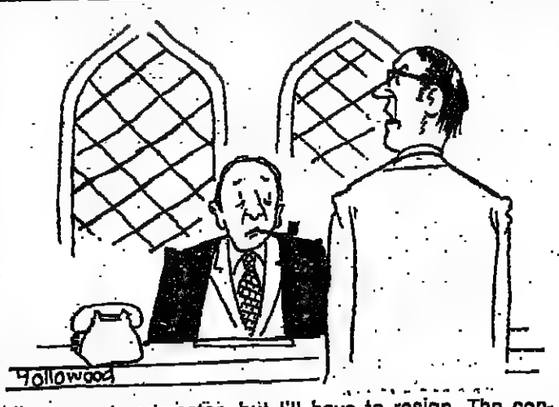
ring to an end a long the shipbuilding in- ich has included pre- the Shipbuilders and National Association nalization—and mem- f the organizing com- d board of BS.

ng the board of Asso- tish Engineering, the npany of British Polar e has taken his direc- to seven.

chief executive is arry, a former Ocean group man who was l force in the BS cor- ate department in days.

will maintain an the future of the ng industry through ction. Meanwhile, the on for his successor.

idely expected that Parker, chairman and director of John G. the Scottish marine ilders, and a part-time f the BS board will be to run Scott Lithgow 3 moves on.



"I'm sorry headmaster, but I'll have to resign. The continuous squeak of the new slates and slate pencils is getting me down."

● Britain's industrial buyers are a notoriously shy bunch but the prospect of a £1,000 prize is starting to cure the habit.

When the Ravensdown Group announced its first buyer of the year award three years ago it had 30 applicants. The following year there were 200, and last year 300.

Ravensdown have split the award into three sections this year related to company size and turnover, in an effort to win entries from some of the smaller fish.

One result of the Budget seems to be that economists are ousting Irishmen as the butt of after-dinner speeches. For instance, did you hear the one about the Cambridge economics student who failed his finals? At re-sits the next year he finds himself faced with a paper which looks remarkably familiar. On tackling an examiner about this, he is told: "Oh yes. The questions are exactly the same—but the answers are quite different".

● Hongkong may not be on the verge of declaring UDI, but the colony is still feeling touchy over its treatment by the old country, as Adam Thomson, chairman of British Caledonian, has recently discovered.

Thomson has just returned from the colony where he was extolling BCal's virtues in preparation for the launch of the line's London-Hongkong service, due to sart in August.

But the locals are still smarting over the fact that the indigenous airline, Cathay Pacific, failed to win a licence from the Civil Aviation Authority to fly the route.

BCal's London office tactfully admits that Thomson's reception was "mixed". The CAA's decision, which has been denounced by one Hongkong newspaper as "colonialism and imperialism at its worst", will be the subject of an appeal by Cathay Pacific to the Secretary of State for Trade, John Nott.

Thomson was told by the Governor, Sir Murray Maclehose, that the Hongkong Government will firmly support the appeal.

The CAA allowed BCal into the Hongkong route which only British Airways flies at the moment because it felt the line's DC 10s were more suited to the traffic than Cathay's Boeing 747s.

Cathay were particularly incensed because it has a buy-British policy and stipulated

Adam Thomson: "a mixed reception".

Rolls-Royce engines for its current order, four 747s, worth a total of £70m—£20m of it going to R-R.

● *Zimbabwe Rhodesia's return to the outside world is progressing apace. The first international hotel reservations agreement since the start of UDI has just been signed—between Zimbabwe Sun group and the booking concern Utel.*

Sun managing director Peter Bester told Business Diary that rooms are at a high premium in Salisbury because of business visitors, and an expected tourist boom is fuelling an hotel expansion programme.

It is a far cry from the bad old days of UDI when reservations from Britain could only be made by a private phone call.

● A warning for all those wishing to trade with France in these terrible days of the mutton war —give them an inch and they will take around eight quid off you.

The court at Carvin in the Pas de Calais has just handed out two 80 franc (£8) fines to a supermarket and a newspaper for using the word *pouce* (inch) in advertisements, with no mention of their metric equivalents.

The prosecutions were brought by the Metric Society of France, which acts as a consumer watchdog in these matters. The legally approved argument is that since nobody in France knows what a *pouce* is—apart from being the word for a thumb—then the consumer must be being duped.

● Collars will be felt at a diner in Treorchy next week and woe betide defaulters.

In deference to local rag trade workers affected by cheap imports, the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers have stipulated that guests must wear British clothes. And they are promising to check labels.

It is all apropriate enough, because the dinner is to honour former union chairman Idwal Brace who has just worked his first full-time week at a local firm since last September.

David Hewson

Stock markets

Buying surge exhausts new tap

The firm trend established on Monday continued to grow yesterday as the prospects for an end to the 13-week old steel strike took a step closer to reality.

Equities made further progress in the wake of gilts, where a renewed surge of buying enabled the new "tap" to be activated—only to finish exhausted a short time later.

However, this time around dealers were more confident as they reported the appearance of buyers in the market once again. Bed and breakfast bargains continued to be a strong feature of trade, only this time they took second place to the institutions which were eagerly mopping up large amounts of loose stock.

Once again trading began on a cautious note with some confusion and nervousness as to whether the steel union would return to work on Mr Bill Sirs' recommendation.

But as ethe morning wore on the market became steadily more confident and buyers in gilts pushed prices steadily higher.

This resulted in the new "tap" Treasury 14 per cent 1996 being activated only to be exhausted. Estimates suggested that between £500m and £700m of the stock was soaked up by the institutions. The renewed interest in gilts came as no real surprise to jobbers, who had been expecting the institutions to show their hands before long, as the huge influx of funds continued to build up. In the event, the new "tap" closed £¼ up on the day at £50¼, after £50⅝, with rises elsewhere in the list showing gains of between £¼ and £½. At the shorter end, the story was somewhat different with falls of around £1/16 in subdued trading.

The shares of UDT have been strong for the past two days on rumours that the company might divest itself of some of its fixed-rate hire purchase business. If this were to happen, UDT could get out of the "lifeboat" and this would enhance its prospects to obtain full banking status. The shares remained unchanged at 58p yesterday.

Reports in after-hours trading that the steelworkers and blastfurnace men's union had accepted the return to work call, gave a further boost to prices, although this was not shown in the F.T. Index which closed 5.4 up at 432.4 after 5.5 up at 2 pm.

Leading industrials were again in good form, particularly the big dollar earners which have gained ground on the recent strength of the currency. **ICI** climbed 8p to 374p along with **Fisons** 11p to 267p, **Beecham** 2p to 120p and **BAT's** 9p to 235p. Elsewhere **Bowater**, reporting next week, advanced 6p to 169p, **Glaxo** 8p to 248p while **Racal** put on 2p to 214p and **Dunlop** 1p to 56p. **Unilever** was unchanged at 408p.

The renewed strength in the dollar also helped insurance companies. **Commercial Union** gained 2p to 134p as rises were seen in **Phoenix** 2p to 216p and **Sun Alliance** 6p to 544p. The latter two are reporting full-year figures today along with insurance broker **Willis Faber** 8p better at 248p, **Alexander Howden**, which reported last week, rose 5p to 108p.

Banks followed the general market trend, although brokers felt that price movements had been greatly exaggerated by the thin trading conditions. **National Westminster** rose 8p to 318p, **Midland** 7p to 318p, following the chairman's statement, and **Lloyds** 7p to 300p. **Barclays** could only manage a 2p improvement at 410p.

Among stores the reconstructed **Gieves Group** commenced trading at 45p before closing at 49p. The remainder of the sector showed only scattered improvements, although talk of a bullish brokers circular helped **Boots** to a 7p rise at 183p.

Bid speculation continued to darw in support for **Githrie** 50p higher at 925p and **Barget** rose another 4p to 20p following the recent partial bid from Hongkong-based Tinnox. Speculative attention was also good for rises of 3p to 133p in **MAM's**, 4p to 178p in **Low & Bonar** and 13p to 163p in **Saatchi & Saatchi**.

Comment was good for rises of 4p in **Coalite** at 93p, **London & Continental Advertising** 2p to 20p while further reflection on Ladbroke's recent casino disposals added a further 4p to the share price at 136p.

In buildings, **Barratt Developments** rose 2p to 119p after news of a major United States acquisition, and investment support saw **RMC** improve 5p to 159p.

Among the batch of companies reporting, **Silkolene Lubricants** edged ahead 7p to 135p after a doubled dividend payment and improved profits, and **Wace** climbed 7p to 63p on a better-than-expected performance and 1-for-4 scrip.

Mines had another fairly mixed day with most closing the day off the top. In Australians **BHP** spurted 20p to 605p as **St Piran** jumped 10p to 73p after the announcement that former chairman, Mr James Raper may be forced by the Takeover Panel to bid for the remainder of the company.

Equity turnover on March 31, was £98.113m (20,428 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were BP, Shell, ICI, National Westminster Bank, GEC, BAT's, Boots, Premier Cons, Ultramar, Lasmo, Consolidated Gold Fields, RTZ, Beecham, Courtaulds and Marks & Spencer.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
American Trst (F)	—(—)	1.65*(1.35*)	2.05(1.7)	1.25(—)	—	1.85(1.55)
H. Brammer (F)	39.1(31.7)	6.4(5.5)	18.9(17.3)	3.7(3.8)	—	5.5(5.0)
Cape Indsts (F)	203.7(180.2)	12.1(12.2)	45.1(43.9)	7.3(5.9)	29/5	11.2(9.2)
Charterhall (I)	0.49(0.22)	—(—)	—(—)	Nil(Nil)	—	—(—)
Desoutter Bros (F)	22.45(19.6)	3.8(3.4)	34.63(16.92)	4.5(3.68)	18/5	7.2(6.16)
Highland Electron (I)	3.99(3.93)	0.30(0.32)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Ingal Indsts (I)	2.13(2.12)	0.09(0.13)	0.82(1.17)	0.74(0.67)	23/5	—(—)
Laurence Gould (F)	—(—)	0.21(0.13)	131(103)	23.6(—)	15/5	42.0(17.5)
Law Land (F)	10.0†(9.9)	—(—)	0.73(0.85)	0.75(—)	8/7	1.25(1.10)
Lndn & L'pol Tst (F)	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)	0.62(—)	28/4	0.7(0.8)
Savoy Hotel (F)	—(—)	0.51(1.1)	—(—)	1.14(1.14)	—	—(—)
Silkolene (F)	10.9(9.0)	1.0(0.86)	19.5(13.8)	3.95(—)	15/5	5.0(2.45)
Southampton IoW (F)	—(—)	1.4(1.0)	—(—)	9.5(7.5)	21/5	13.5(11.2)
W. Tyzack (I)	2.2(2.1)	0.04(0.05)	2.4(3.3)	0.5(1.62)	—	2.0(1.25)
Titaghur Jute (F)	2.8(3.1)	—(—)	—(—)	Nil(Nil)	—	—(—)
Unicom Indsis (F)	92.2(73.5)	6.52(7.43)	14.1(16.0)	4.64(3.91)	—	7.14(6.06)
Wace Group (F)	5.5(3.2)	0.31(0.34)	8.18(6.8)	1.8(1.05)	—	3.0(0.99)
Watts Blake (F)	22.3(19.1)	3.51(3.02)	16.3(13.9)	2.3(2.0)	—	3.6(3.13)
W. S. Yeates (F)	20.3(15.7)	1.4(0.97)	61.4(40.9)	—(—)	—	—(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. *=Revenue available. †=Trading profit.

Barratt Developments buys US housebuilder

By Peter Wainwright

Barratt Developments, Britain's leading private housebuilder, which erects 11,000 homes a year, has bravely decided to go deeper into debt.

Having inspected the United States market, which is about ten times bigger than the United Kingdom one with between 1¼m and 2¼m houses being built every year, Barratt has bought all the equity in American National Housing Corporation, a leading Californian housebuilder.

The initial cash consideration is $12m with additional payments between 1983 and 1986 based on net assets and profits.

Barratt says that American National made profits of $2.9m in the year to April, 1979, but it is unable to say what they will be this year.

American National was set up as recently as 1969 and is based in Newport Beach, in southern Californiai. In 10 years it has built and sold almost 3,000 houses in California and Arizona. The land bank apparentl yis good for three years.

Mr Laurie Barratt, the chairman, says that this is the first time a United Kingdom housebuilder has bought a United States opposite number and the group plans further acquisitions in the United States in the next few years.

The news was enough to lift the shares 2p to 119p yesterday, but even so the market still worries about Barratt, whose borrowings are mounting at a time when United Kingdom house building is going into recession.

It is now entering a new market where interest rates have recently shot up to almost 20 per cent, unprecedented in the United States, and housebuilding is going into a slump.

The United States is also a country where housebuyers have even more of their incomes geared up in prior commitments than in Britain.

Barratt recently reported interim profits 42 per cent up at £11.5m though it was, and is, subsidizing mortgages.

For this year Barratt is possibly on course for profits of £27m but next year is the critical one.

Accountancy law change opposed

By Adrienne Gleeson

The Institute of Chartered Accountants has come down against proposals to replace the auditing of small company accounts with a more limited review. In a memorandum to the Department of Trade, published yesterday, its members say that there should be no change in the law which at present requires the accounts of all limited companies to be audited.

The accountants say there has been no strong pressure for change from the users of company accounts. But they recognize that members of their profession are worried about the problems of complying with increasingly stringent auditing standards in the case of small companies. They suggest that an answer to the dilemma might lie in a reduction in the number (now over 692,000) of limited companies, many of which, they say, are dormant or have no function.

Pretax profits slip at Cape Industries

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Building and automotive products group Cape Industries, which is 67 per cent-owned by Mr Harry Oppenheimer's Charter Consolidated, just failed to make up for the absence of second half profits from the mining division which was sold last June for £15m.

Pretax profits for the year to December 31 were 2 per cent down at £12.5m on sales ahead by 13 per cent to £204m.

The building division, which is involved in fire protection and insulation, had an excellent year and trading profits were nearly two-fifths higher at £12.1m and the cash released by the mining sale kept interest charges £1m below what they would have been.

But the automotive and engineering division failed to show any improvement over a disappointing first half. The home replacement market for brake linings was weak and original equipment contracts on the continent did not materialize. This left the year's trading profits from automotives down from £2.18m to £1.23m.

However, increased capital allowances and stock relief reduced the tax charge so that earnings per share rose from 43.9p to 45.1p. The dividend — more than twice covered by current cost profits — is raised by a fifth to 16p gross. The shares yield 7 per cent at 228p and the fully-fixed p/e ratio is 9.2.

Cape expects recovery from the automotive side in 1980 and continued if slower growth from the building division.

Watts up 16pc to £3.51m

Exports set the pace at Watts, Blake, Bearne in 1979, rising by a tenth in volume and a quarter in value to £10.95m.

This was the main reason behind the 16 per cent rise in group profits to £3.51m before tax on group sales ahead from £19.1m to £22.3m. The group produces ball clay for the ceramics industry.

Watts continues to spend heavily—over £3.5m in 1979 covered by cash flow—on new plant to raise added value, and plans to spend about £20m more in the next five years.

The dividend has been raised by a tenth to give a yield of 3.1 per cent at 168p. The current year has started very well.

Second-hal downturn : Unicorn Industries

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sharply lower second profits left Unicorn Ind. down by 12 per cent to £ before tax in the year to ember 31.

Strikes, lower profits diamond merchanting higher interest charges the shortfall, which was a 26 per cent rise in sales group's abrasive materia diamond products to £92.

Interest charges rose £1.04m to £1.08m. Al Unicorn raised £5.63m rights issue last April, working capital and buyi the outstanding 50 per Craelius for over £2m— as taking on board its pushed up group net ings by £4.5m to 40 per shareholders' funds.

A full year's contr from the whole of diamo maker Craelius helped the downturn in diamor chanting and pre-interest of £3.58m from the d products division were up.

The diamond merc business in 1979 was fir of supplies, then sh demand. But a move in diamonds should aid rec 1980.

Profits from Unicorn's but less exciting conv abrasives division were The engineering strike dispute at Universal G in Stafford cost £1m ar of the £400,000 above redundancy costs were here too.

After a proportionatel tax charge, attributable rose. But the rights iss tion left stated earnir share down from 16p t

The year's gross rises by 16 per cent t to give a yield of 13.2 at 77p—down 3p. The p on stated earnings is 5.

Mr Brian Ball-Gree chairman, says the overseas markets, account for three-fif sales, are dull. But th is expanding in counter activities such as oil and mineral exploratio hopes to make higher p 1980.

Briefly

American Trust: Dividend for year to Jan 31, 2.64p gross (2.21p). Revenue available for ordinary £1.65m (£1.35m) after tax £1.15m (£1.03m). EPS 2.05p (1.7p). NAV per share 65.3p (60.6p).

BBA Group: Yorkshire-based maker of friction materials, conveyor belting and asbestos textiles, reports a sales increase for 1979 of 14 per cent to £137.3m. Pre-tax profit was up 5.8 per cent at £8m. Total dividend is 2.63p a share.

Saga Holidays: Turnover for half year to December 31, £11.8m (£11.5m). Interim is 3.9p gross (3.57p). Pretax profit, £1.15m (£974,000). Chairman reports significant drop in demand for holidays throughout industry and it is unlikely that expected growth will materialize.

Local Authority Bonds: Interest rate on this week's issue of yearling bonds is 17¼ per cent. Issue price is 100 (last week 17¼ per cent at 100).

Polly Peck Hldgs: Acceptances of offer made on behalf of Restro have been received in respect of 3.02m shares. Offer became unconditional on March 12. Restro now controls approx 58 per cent of voting rights of Polly Peck. Offer remains open until April 14 and will close on that date.

Alexander Howden Group: Kuwait Investments Office on March 10 sold 100,000 shares, on March 13 50,000 shares, and on March 21 50,000 shares leaving interest at 7.1m shares (7.83 per cent).

Premier Consolidated Oilfields: Says that Amoco production has begun seismic exploration on Great Salt Lake prospect in Utah.

Fairey Holdings: Mr Angus Murray, chairman comments on current uncertainty about future ownership of group and its effect on morale of management and workforce. Apart from this, his annual report is of good prospects.

Barget: Again no dividend. Turnover for year to September 30, £2.79m (£4.99m). Pretax loss £839,000 (loss £245,000). As a result of this and following discussions with Tinnox, a Hongkong group controlled by Mr Jose de Venecia, jr. Tinnox has agreed to buy a 50.5 per cent stake.

Greencoat Properties: Gross revenue for half year to December 31, £2.03m (£1.99m). Pretax profit £2,000 (£26,000). Group's legal problems in Paris are not yet finally resolved. In the United Kingdom the group's main effort has been devoted to the Kingston development, where construction is under way and a letting programme has commenced.

Laurence Gould: Pretax profit for 1979 £214,000 (£134.00). EPS 131p (103p). Dividend is 42p (17.5875p). Board says that despite national recession, a highly competitive international market and a likely slowdown in United Kingdom farming profits group expects to achieve some increase in turnover and profit in 1980.

CLRP Investment Trust: Pre-tax revenue for half-year to end-February 1980 £432,000 (£252,000). Nav 106.3p (102.3p). Interim 1.6p net (0.9p). Board forecasts a maintained final of 1.9p.

W. Tyzak Sons & Turner: Turnover for 27 weeks to February 2, £2.23m (£2.12m). Pretax profit £4,000 (£57,500). Extraordinary profit on sale of garden tools business £117,000 (nil). EPS 2.4p (3.5p). Dividend 2.85p gross (1.78p).

Ingall Industries: Turnover for half year to December 31, £2.13m (£2.12m). Pretax profits £91,000 (£131,000). EPS 0.82p (1.17p). Interim is 1.06 gross (0.96).

Rockwell bid for Serck: In addition to the terms already announced, accepting holders may elect to receive for all or part of their holding of Serck ordinary shares, floating rate unsecured loan notes 1980-85 at a rate of 77½p nominal per ordinary shares.

NANCIAL NEWS

lusuisse rejects Conalco deal

weizerische Aluminium (Alusuisse) has decided not to ise its option to buy a r 40 per cent interest in Louis-based Consolidated nium Corp (Conalco), isse chairman Mr Emanuel said yesterday in Zurich. suisse had the right of efusal on the 40 per cent st held by Phelps Dodge Phelps Dodge said at the t February it was discuss- e sale of this interest with l potential buyers.

Mr Meyer told a press conference the price of $125m asked by Phelps Dodge was too high.

Under an agreement with Phelps Dodge, the latter had to offer its Conalco shares to the Swiss company under the same terms as discussed with the potential buyers. The 30-day period for Alusuisse to decide expired on Monday.

Alusuisse already holds a 60 per cent interest in Consolidated Aluminium.

Mr Meyer said it would have been irresponsible for Alusuisse to acquire the 40 per cent interest at the $125m price, in view of what he described as Conalco's inadequate profits.

International

Honda offering

Honda Motor Co announced plans yesterday to issue to the public 40 million new 50 yen shares of common stock at Tokyo market prices with the payment to be made on May 31.

As a result, share capital will rise to 33,070m yen from 31,070m. Proceeds will go towards a 65,000m yen exansion programme.

Pernas-Sime Darby

The Malaysian-based Pernas-Sime Darby Holdings said yesterday it had purchased a further 30 per cent of the equity of Japanese-owned Kubota Agricultural Machinery (KAM) to take its stake to 90 per cent.

KAM is engaged in the assembly and distribution of the Kubota range of agricultural machinery from Japan. The sum involved in the shares was not stated.

Pioneer Concrete

Pioneer Concrete Services said in Sydney, it plans to raiseA$55.23m via a one-for-three rights issue after greater *than expected mineral and* energy acquisitions.

Pioneer directors said this had meant a deferment of other projects. The issue of 44.31 million 50 cent shares will be made at A$1.25 a share.

madian Pacific buoyant

adian Pacific's consoli- net income in 1979 was ord C$508.1m or C$7.06 linary share, according to nnual report, released lay.

dends of C$1.70 an ordi- share were the highest aid by the company.

l assets reached 00m and group capital ng reached C$1,200m.

The group plans capital expenditures in 1980 of C$1,500m. Inflation accounts for some of the increase over 1979, but the bulk of it represents additional spending to expand or improve the productive capabilities of the various enterprises.

The report said indications were that positive influences on 1980 earnings would outweigh negative ones.

V narrows losses

Schelde-Verolme (RSV), etherlands largest ship- g group, said yesterday narrowed its losses in ar was proposing to pass dend again this year.

said its loss last year 21.9m (£4.8m), against in 1978. The operating was a positive Fl15.1m a negative Fl77.8m in 1978. The operating result includes Fl88m for depreciation compared with Fl87.3m a year earlier.

The balance of other income and costs, which amounted to a negative Fl37m, was subtracted from the operating result, thus accounting for the negative net result, the company said.

l rating cut

dard and Poors Corp said York it had cut its rat- all public debt issue by rp to double "C".

rating service said the action reflected the company's use of interest grace periods on certain debt obligations and proposal to recapitalize principal on some senior obligations.

Carrington Viyella's retail trading was by no means buoyant and recovery was not expected for some months, the chairman, Mr Leonard Regan (pictured) told the annual meeting yesterday in London.

He said the 1980 capital investment programme had been further reduced, while the strength of sterling was hurting export profits.

However, the reduction and final elimination of losses in certain areas this year would help overall results, he added.

The company had 1979 pretax profits of £8.5m, against £14.5m in 1978 on sales of £313m, compared with £323m a year earlier.

Panel rules on St Piran

Continued from page 19

In 1978 the company made pretax profits of £8.5m, up nearly £2m. Assets were £16m. It is expected that profits will not show such an improvement this year, although it is thought that the accounts may not be qualified as they were in 1979.

The existence of nominee shareholding and the possible extent of Mr Raper's control over St Piran first came to a head in 1978 when the company acquired just under 30 per cent of A. Monk,

At the beginning of 1979 a number of shareholders initiated an unsuccessful action in the High Court to prevent eight companies, though to represent Mr Raper, from voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting. Shareholders' resolutions at the EGM were defeated, and a further restraining order was sought to prevent the directors from acting as a board. But it too was turned down.

St Piran was now the subject of investigations in Hongkong, Singapore and Australia. After a stormy annual meeting in December last year, at which many shareholders tried to find out the identity of proxy votes, the Department of Trade announced it would also launch an inquiry. That inquiry is still proceeding.

The Panel started its investigation after the EGM in March last year with an examination of the stock transfer forms.

Much of the evidence in the Panel's report is drawn from a study of share transfers. It says that many of the transfers were made without a change in beneficial ownership, a device which helps to reduce stamp duty. It concluded that Gasco was in fact controlled by Berriedale, a Hongkong company, itself controlled by Bathgate, a Bermudan investment company. Both the latter are said to have been dominated by Mr Raper.

As a consequence, the Panel says that when Mr Raper disposed of his early shareholdings *1974 amounted to* in St Piran, which by March 1974 amounted to 34 per cent of the then issued capital, the proceeds of the sales effectively returned by a circular route to the buying companies.

Financial Editor, page 21

Desoutter Brothers' 10 pc rise

Mechanical engineers Desoutter Brothers (Holdings) reports *pretax profits up from £3.4m* to £3.8m on turnover up from £19.6m to £22.4m for 1979.

A tax charge of £1.4m compared with £1.7m last time leaves earnings per share up *from 16.92p to 24.63p. The final* dividend of 6.43p gross makes a total of 10.3p against 8.8p last time.

The board comments that so far this year orders received are continuing at a satisfactory level.

However, the high rate of inflation and the strength of sterling may have some effect on trading margins so the 1980 figures may not equal those of 1979.

Silkolene seeks trustee status

The Belper-based Silkolene Lubricants is increasing its share capital to give its shares "trustee status". The face value of the shares is being written up from 10p to 25p.

For 1979, pre-tax profits have risen from £869,000 to £1.06m, on turnover of £10.97m against £9.02m. The dividend is raised from 3.72p to 7.14p gross.

Mr R. G. Dalton, chairman, says that the group has entered the 1980s on an optimistic note, but profits for the current year will be affected unless present industrial disputes *are settled soon.*

Bid for London Intercontinental

Certain directors at London *Intercontinental* Trust have agreed to sell to Glasserton, their family interests at 267,900 ordinary shares of LIT, some 26.79 per cent, at 12p.

Glasserton will then extend an offer to holders of the remaining shares in LIT at the same price of 12p. The offer will be conditional only on acceptances being received in respect of 24.21 per cent of issued ordinary share capital.

Glasserton intends to reactivate the business of LIT and restore the listing. The agreement is subject to satisfactory answers to certain queries concerning LIT being provided by April 21.

Racal says 88 pc took its share offer

Acceptances of the ordinary and "A" ordinary offers by Racal for Decca have reached some 88 per cent. Elections for *the cash alternatives represent* about 12 per cent. Some 30.10m Racal ordinary shares will fall to be issued under these acceptances, and £8.6m will fall to be paid.

Racal has declared the offers wholly unconditional. Dealings in the Racal shares will begin today for deferred settlement on April 23.

Southampton Steam Packet ahead

Southampton Isle of Wight and South of England Royal Mail Steam Packet reports a *pre-tax profit for 1979* at £1.43m against £1.08m. This includes a surplus on the disposal of fixed assets at £4,000 compared with £156,000, as well as interest and dividends received £215,000 (£67,000). After tax this leaves £685,000 (£516,000). The dividend is 27 per cent against 22.5 per cent.

Law Land trading profit slips

Over 1979, turnover at Law Land rose from £9.92m to £10.02m including £4.87m from trading, against £4.76m. The trading profit was £2.78m, compared with £2.85m.

Interest charges took £2.74m against £2.6m. The dividend is raised from 1.57p gross to 1.78p.

Independent valuations of properties held as fixed assets on an open market value basis, were carried out as at December 31. The total value amounted to £64.13m compared with a book value of £51.70m and the resulting net surplus has been credited to capital reserve.

London & Liverpool acquisition

London and Liverpool Trust has reached a conditional agreement for the acquisition of Regent Autocar. The consideration is to be satisfied by the issue of 2.76m new ordinary shares credited as fully paid, some 45.9 per cent of the increased issued share capital. The vendors intend to place 1m of the new shares in order to comply with the requirements of the Stock Exchange.

If insufficient shares (961,673) are placed to reduce the vendors' holding below 30 per cent, the Takeover Panel has waived any obligation of the vendor to make a full bid.

H. Brammer hoists pretax profits

H. Brammer & Co, the transmission belting and rubber products group, raised pretax profits from £5.5m to £6.4m in 1979. Turnover rose from £31.7m to £39.1m.

At the trading level profits rose from £5.05m to £5.9m, but the pretax profits are struck after interest received of £420,000 against £375,000 last time and after profit on sale of non-trade investment, which contributed £116,000 against £48,000.

The final dividend of 5.3p gross makes a total for the year of 7.86p against 7.14p last time.

ess appointments

me Platt reappoints mer finance director

errick Willingham is re- the role of finance of Stone-Platt Industries. McGrath will now be- ll-time chairman of the division.

T. Powell and Mr A. E. are retiring on April 25 cease to be members of & Cruickshank, stock- Mr R. A. Stormonth- will succeed Mr Powell as of the company and Mr arley and Mr P. Jones to election as a member Stock Exchange) will be- bers of the company.

vid Malcolm and Mr R. B. ve been appointed direc- the Scottish Metropolitan Company. Mr Malcolm Mr Derek Warbrick who ned.

nneth E. Holmes is now ecutive of The Renwick Mr Clifford W. Wilton, chairman, who will retire nan next year, has relin- his role as chief executive d King has joined the

offrey W. Collier and Mr ulton have been appointed anagers of Vickers Da ockbrokers.

J. Petherbridge has been chairman of the London Market Association to Mr J. F. E. Smith. Mr ynbee was elected deputy

S. Sever has retired from rd of Refuge Assurance it is proposed that Mr ctor-Pearson be appointed ecutive director.

McIntyre has become a of Maxwell Batley & Co.

E. Banham is now sales and marketing director of Aveling Barford.

Professor J. C. Higgins has joined the board of Amos Hinton and Sons in a non-executive capacity.

Mr Alan H. C. Colls has been *appointed a director of Stewart* Wrightson Holdings.

Mr N. K. L. Webb is now a member of the board of Byas, Mosley & Co, and the boards of Byas, Mosley (Life and Pensions) and Byas, Mosley (Reinsurance *Brokers).*

Mr Medhat Lutfi has been elected by Ernst & Whinney as senior partner of its Middle East firm.

Mr David C. Walsh has been appointed group managing director *of Ellis & Everard with effect* from May 1.

Mr P. H. W. Southern has been appointed commercial director of The English Industrial Estates Corporation.

Mr J. C. Thompson has become managing director of Higher Speed Metals. He remains managing director of HIP (Powder Metals). Mr E. B. Clark continues as director in charge of day-to-day operations at Higher Speed Metals.

Mr Geoffrey H. Nuttall is now production director of B. S. & W. Whiteley.

Mr Mervyn Thomas has been appointed director of the National Tyre Distributors Association.

Mr A. R. Devereux has resigned from the board of Scotcros.

Mr K. W. Meldal-Johnsen has been appointed a director of Howden Group.

Mr D. O. Spyer is now a member of the board of C. E. Coates and Co, the wholly owned banking subsidiary of United City Merchants.

Mr G. G. Watson is to be a director of Richards, Longstaff (Pension and Trustee).

Mr M. G. King and Dr D. D. Brown have retired from the board of CSR. Sir Leslie Thiess has deferred an invitation to join the board.

Mr Peter Bosworth has been elected president of the Institute of Training and Development for 1980-81.

Mr A. W. Frost and Mr R. R. *Williams have become directors* of C. E. Heath & Co.

Mr David Alliance has succeeded Lord Chelwood who has retired as chairman of the Compton Webb group.

Mr Neil Maidman has been *appointed managing director of* Erico Engineering from April 14.

Mr Kenneth Bartley is to be chairman of Daniel Greenaway and Sons, and continue as managing director. Sir Derek Greenaway is retiring from the chairmanship but *remains life president.* Mr Robin C. Chavenire is appointed commercial director and Mr Trevor S. Jones development director.

Mr Keith Braner has been appointed director-general of the Institute of Sales Management. Mr John H. Goodman takes over as chairman to the senate of the institute this month.

Mr Malcolm Bell has become general manager and a director of Sainsbury-GB (Home Improvements).

Mr J. C. Golding, Mr G. Syrpis and Mr F. Talbot Willcox have been appointed to the board of Eggar Forrester (Holdings).

ank Base Rates

Bank	17%
lays Bank	17%
Bank	17%
idated Crdts	17%
hare & Co	*17%
ds Bank	17%
ion Mercantile	17%
land Bank	17%
Westminster	17%
[illegible]	17%
[illegible]	17%
ams and Glyn's	17%

day deposit on sums of 0,000 and under 15%, up £25,000 15½%, over 5,000 15¾%.

NEW THROGMORTON TRUST LTD.

Net Loan Stock Valuation— April 1st, 1980

at Asset Value per £1 of Loan Stock is 191.20p calculation Formula 2.

Assets valued at middle market prices.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

79/80 Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
64	Airsprung Group	64	−1	6.7	10.5	*3.8
29	Armitage & Rhodes	29	—	3.8	13.1	*2.0
185	Bardon Hill	255	—	13.8	5.4	7.5
80	County Cars Pref	80	—	15.3	19.1	—
63	Deborah Ord	97	−1	5.0	5.2	10.7
88	Frank Horsell	105	—	7.9	7.5	6.3
98	Frederick Parker	100	—	12.8	12.8	*4.6
102	George Blair	106	—	16.5	15.6	*—
56	Jackson Group	70	—	5.2	7.4	*4.1
115	James Burrough	115	+1	7.2	6.3	10.1
242	Robert Jenkins	263	+3	31.3	11.9	*8.4
175	Torday Limited	216	—	14.3	6.6	*5.6
14½	Twinlock Ord	13	−1½	0.8	6.5	*2.5
70	Twinlock 12% ULS	76	—	12.0	15.8	—
23	Unilock Holdings	49	+2	2.6	5.3	10.4
49	Unilock Holdings New	49	—	—	—	10.4
42	Walter Alexander	95	−1	4.4	4.6	6.3
136	W. S. Yeates	182xd	+2	12.1	6.6	*3.0

Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £955-57 a metric ton; three months, £974-75. Sales, 3,700. Cash cathodes, £917.50-20.00; three months, £947-49. Sales, 650 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £959-61; three months, £978-79. Settlement, £961. Sales, 8,750 tons. Cash cathodes, £921.25; three months, £952-54. Settlement, £925. Sales, 650 tons.

TIN was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £7,800-7,810 a tonne; three months, £7,835-40. Sales, 3,195 tonnes. High grade, cash £7,800-7,810; three months, £7,835-50. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £7,795-7,810; three months, £7,810-20. Settlement, £7,810. Sales, 875 tonnes. High grade, cash £7,795-7,810; three months, £7,810-30. Settlement, £7,810. Sales, nil. Singapore tin ex-works, SM2,301 a picul.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £456-59 per tonne; three months, £441-41.50. Sales, 4,650 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £460-62; three months, £443-44. Settlement, £462. Sales, 3,450 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £311-12 per tonne; three months, £317.50-18.50. Sales, 1,150 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £316-18; three months, £319-21. Settlement, £318. Sales, 4,725 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £273.10 ($585) a troy ounce.

SILVER was barely steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 795.90p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,699); three months, 805.90p (1,726.50c); six months, 839.90p (1,808.60c); one year 879.90p (1,890.90c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 705-15p; three months, 720-25p. Sales, 64 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 745-50p; three months, 755-60p. Settlement, 750p. Sales, 90 lots.

ALUMINIUM was very steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £960-65 per tonne; three months, £958-59. Sales, 2,800 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £950-60; three months, £951-53. Settlement, £960. Sales, 1,900 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £3,000-3,016 per tonne; three months, £3,105-15. Sales, 270 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £3,030-50; three months, £3,130-40. Settlement, £3,050. Sales, 204 tonnes.

RUBBER was quiet and slightly easier (pence per kilo).—May, 66-66.10; June, 67.50-67.80; July-Sept, 69.90-70.00; Oct-Dec, 73.80-74.00; Jan-March, 76.40-76.50; April-June, 79-79.30; July-Sept, 81.50-82.00; Oct-Dec, 84.00-84.50; Jan-March, 86.70-86.90. Sales, 13 at five tonnes; 305 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet.—Spot, 64.50-66.50. Cifs, May, 69.25-67.75; June, 69.75-70.25.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): May, 1,616-18; July, 1,638-40; Sept, 1,666-67; Nov, 1,667-70; Jan, 1,656-60; March, 1,625-40; May, 1,600-50. Sales: 3,711 lots including 10 options.

COCOA was slightly easier (£ per metric ton).—May, 1,397-98; July, 1,402-05; Sept, 1,417-18; Dec, 1,455-65; March, 1,478-79; May, 1,492-1,502; July, 1,516-30. Sales: 1,728 lots including one option. Daily price (March 31) 135.92 US cents per lb.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £8 higher at £210; the "whites" price was £8 higher at £224. Futures (£ per tonne): **OLD CONTRACT** (barely steady): May, 222.50-222.60; Aug, 233.40-233.50; Oct, 239-239.80. Sales 5,065 lots. **New Contract** (quiet): May, 224-224.05; Aug, 235-235.50; Oct, 241-242.50; Jan 247-251; March, 257.25-258.00; May, 256-258; Aug, 273.50-275. Sales 251 lots. ISA prices (March 31): daily 17.96c; 15-day average, 18.60c.

White sugar was all unquoted.

SOYABEAN MEAL was easier (£ per tonne).—April, 110.50-11.00; June, 108.50-88.80; Aug, 109.10-09.30; Oct, 106.70-07.00; Dec, 109.70-10.00; Feb, 112.50-13.00; April, 114.60-15.30. Sales, 124 lots.

WOOL.—Greasy futures (pence per kilo).—Australian (quiet): May, 265-80; July, Oct, Dec, March, May all 280-300; July, Oct, 282-302. Sales nil. New Zealand crossbreds all unquoted. New Zealand crossbreds No. 2 contract, cents per kilo (barely steady): May, 365-378; Aug, 373-383; Oct, Dec, 380-383; Jan, 385-390; March, 395-400; May, 400-410; Aug, 400-425. Sales four lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: April-May, £93.25; June-July, £92.50; Aug, £95.40; Sept, £93.25; Oct, £96 trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob: April, £97.50; May, £99 east coast.

MAIZE.—US/French: April, £116.50; May, £117.50 trans-shipment east coast. South African white unquoted. South African yellow: April-May, £78.60.

BARLEY.—English feed fob: April, unquoted; May, £99.50; June, £100 east coast. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—

BARLEY was easy: May, £93.25; Sept, £90.85; Nov, £95; Jan, £98.90; March, £102.50. Sales, 138 lots.

WHEAT was easy. May, £94.40; Sept, £92.60; Nov, £96.65; Jan, £100.58; March, £104.05. Sales, 170 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S East	—	£93.80	£93.90
S West	—	£94.50	£94.40
W Midlands	£96.80	£93.80	£92.70
N West	—	£96	£93.10

Meat Commission: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 1.—GB: Cattle, 85.76p per kg lw (+0.58). UK: Sheep, 158.7p per kg est dcw (−4.1). GB: Pigs, 66.9p per kg lw (−1.5). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 0.6 per cent, average price 85.80p (+0.77). Sheep numbers up 6.1 per cent, average price 160.4p (−2.8). Pig numbers up 2.9 per cent, average price 66.8p (−1.8). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 11.8 per cent, average price 85.66p (+0.05). Sheep numbers up 444.4 per cent, average price 153.0p (−1.8). Pig numbers up 29.4 per cent, average price 67.5 (+0.9).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—In home-produced a steady trade with supplies clearing reasonably well. In imported a similar market exists throughout the EEC with prices holding firm.

Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer/first-hand):

Brown	Wed Thur/Fri	Mon/Tues
1's	5.80 to 6.10	5.90 to 6.10
2's	5.30 to 5.50	5.40 to 5.50
3's	4.90 to 5.10	4.90 to 5.10
4's	4.60 to 4.80	4.60 to 4.80
White		
1's	5.50 to 5.60	5.50 to 5.60
2's	5.10 to 5.20	5.15 to 5.30
3's	4.80 to 4.90	4.80 to 4.90
4's	4.55 to 4.65	4.55 to 4.65
5's	4.30 to 4.40	4.25 to 4.35
6's	3.90 to 4.10	3.90 to 4.10
7's	2.90 to 3.20	2.90 to 3.20
Imported prices (in £)		**Current arrivals**
French brown		
1's		5.55 to 5.65
2's		4.85 to 4.95
3's		4.65 to 4.70
Dutch white		
6's		3.65 to 3.70
7's		2.70 to 2.80

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not. There will be no report next week.

Sugar pact price bands 'too close together'

The International Sugar Agreement bands of prices, which activate export quota changes and release special stocks, are too narrow, Mr William Miller, the International Sugar Organization executive director, said yesterday.

It would also help a new sugar agreement in times of shortage and surplus if the size of these special stocks were larger, he told the International Sweetener and Alcohol Conference.

It had taken a long time for quotas to impact on prices and it probably should be possible to cut quotas more deeply.

Larger special stocks and wider price bands should go together while wider participation in the agreement would help with all of this.

Discount market

The Bank of England relieved a shortage of funds in the discount market yesterday by lending a moderate sum to two or three houses overnight at MLR and by purchasing a small parcel of bills made up of Treasury bills taken direct from the houses and of local authority bills bought both from houses and banks. The total assistance remained within the moderate category.

The market mood was certainly less jumpy than on Monday. Underlying factors suggested that help ought not to have been necessary, but the surplus did not come to the surface, though some sizable sums were offered to the houses during the late part of the afternoon.

Rates that had held around 17 per cent throughout the morning dropped away to closing levels anywhere between 12 per cent and 16 per cent. The one major source of liquidity was a very large excess of Exchequer disbursements over Revenue transfers.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 17%
(Last changed 15/11/79)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 17%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 17 Low 16
Week Fixed: 17

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	16⅞	2 months	16⅝
3 months	16⅞	3 months	16⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	17⅞-17⅝	3 months	18⅛
3 months	17⅝-17⅞	4 months	17⅞
4 months	17½-17¼	6 months	17⅛
6 months	17⅛-17⅛		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	19¼-18¾	7 months	18⅛-18
2 months	19¼-19	8 months	18⅛-18
3 months	19-18¾	9 months	18-17¾
4 months	18¾-18½	10 months	18-17¾
5 months	18½-18¼	11 months	18-17¾
6 months	18¼-18	12 months	17⅞-17¾

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	18⅞-18⅝	6 months	18¼-18⅛
3 months	18⅝-18⅜	12 months	17⅝-17

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	18¼	3 months	19⅛
7 days	18¼	6 months	18⅜
1 month	18¾	1 year	18

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 18¼-17¼ Close 17-15

1 week	18¼-18	6 months	18⅛-18¼
1 month	18¾-18⅝	9 months	17⅞-17⅝
3 months	18⅝-18½	12 months	17⅝-17⅜

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 19 6 months 18⅜

Finance House Base Rate 18½%

Recent Issues

	Closing Price
Berkeley Explor'tn £1 Ord (£1g)	110+2
Bio-kil Chem 10p Ord (70)	81
Haynes Pub Ord (120)	166
Keep Inv Tst 5p Ord (10)	11
Leigh Int £1 10% Cnv (Par4)	1¼ prem
Marley R.H. 10p ord (90)	100
Spring Grove Ord (70)	81½+2½
Treasury 14% 1996 (£95) (b)	£30½+¼
Treasury 12½% A 2003-05 (£91½)	£88¼+¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Gen Mining (R16)		52 prem
Utd Biscuit (86a)	Jun 13	1 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ¶ Nil paid. a £10 paid. b £50 paid. f Fully paid. g 50p paid. h £80 paid.

Foreign exchange report

The dollar sharply extended recent gains on foreign exchanges yesterday, although profit-taking did finally leave the currency a shade under its best.

Sterling dropped as low as 2.1260 to the dollar at one stage, but ended a net 2.15 cents down at 2.1425. The effective exchange rate index finished 0.3 down at 72.3.

Against the dollar the Deutschemark closed at 1.9725, compared with 1.9480. Swiss francs fell from 1.8490 to 1.8700, and French francs declined from 4.4880 to 4.5387. The Japanese yen dropped from 250.00 to 254.50 against the dollar. The Bank of Japan sold an estimated $500m to $600m in support of the yen.

Sterling Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) April 1	Market rates (close) April 1	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.1260-1555	$2.1420-1430	.17-.27c disc	.60-.80c disc
Montreal	$2.5560-5820	$2.5645-5655	.75-.65c prem	1.45-1.35c prem
Amsterdam	[illegible]	4.60½-61½fl	3⅛-2⅛c prem	9⅛-7⅛c prem
Brussels	67.45-85f	67.50-60f	10c prem-par	25-15c prem
Copenhagen	13.06-14k	13.06-07k	50-100ore disc	265-315ore disc
Dublin	1.1190-1250p	1.1205-1215	05-15p disc	65-75p disc
Frankfurt	4.20-24m	4.22-23m	3⅛-2⅛pf prem	8⅛-7⅛pf prem
Lisbon	110.20-111.00e	110.50-70e	5c prem-10c disc	25c prem-25c disc
Madrid	155.65-157.35p	157.20-30p	30-45c disc	[illegible]
Milan	[illegible]	1952-63lr	2⅛-4lr prem	2⅛-4⅛lr disc
Oslo	11.13-23k	11.15½-16½k	180-130ore prem	650-600ore prem
Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]	4⅛-3⅛c prem	10⅛-9⅛c prem
Stockholm	9.64-71k	9.68-69k	240-220ore prem	660-640ore prem
Tokyo	538-50y	544½-45½y	105-90y prem	285-270y prem
Vienna	30.10-25sch	30.20-25sch	1125-1050gro prem	3400-3150gro prem
Zurich	3.98½-4.02½f	4.00½-01½f	4⅛-3⅛c prem	11½-10½c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971, was down 0.3% at 72.3%.

Sterling: Other Markets

Australia	1.9730-1.9880
Bahrein	0.7890-0.8290
Finland	0.84080-0.84590
Greece	86.75-88.75
Hongkong	10.8740-10.9140
Iraq	Not available.
Kuwait	0.5730-0.6130
Malaysia	[illegible]
Mexico	48.15-49.65
New Zealand	2.2680-2.2980
Saudi Arabia	7.1075-7.1475
Singapore	4.9140-4.9540
South Africa	1.7225-1.7378

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.9070-1.9100
† Canada	1.1963-1.1966
Netherlands	2.1500-2.1520
Belgium	31.53-31.58
Denmark	6.1100-6.1150
West Germany	1.9720-1.9730
Portugal	51.55-51.65
Spain	73.50-73.55
Italy	910.50-911.50
Norway	5.2000-5.2050
France	4.5350-4.5425
Sweden	4.5090-4.5040
Japan	254.40-254.60
Austria	14.10-14.11
Switzerland	1.8690-1.8710

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8357-0.8360

EMS European Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted*	divergence limit % plus minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	40.605	+2.05	+0.84	[illegible]
Danish krone	7.7236	7.90473	+1.03	−0.12	1.65
German D-mark	2.48208	2.53547	+2.15	+1.04	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.84025	−0.12	−1.23	1.3587
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.76893	+0.92	−0.19	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.672961	+0.71	−0.40	1.665
Italian lira	[illegible]	1169.50	[illegible]	−0.16	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $501.8 (an ounce); pm, $509.8 close, $503.
Krugerrand (per coin): $507-517 (£236.5-241.5).
Sovereigns (new): $126-130 (£58.75-60.75).

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 18½-18¾ seven days, 18½-19¼ one month, 19¾-19⅞ three months, 20-20⅛ six months, 19⅞-19⅝.

Options

Dealers reported a marked improvement in business yesterday as total contracts rose from Monday's depressed figure of 141 to 564. Imperial Group again held the potlight as investors awaited the group's decision of whether or not to proceed with its bid for Howards-Johnson of the United States.

It is now understood that proposals to reduce clearing fees from £2.75p to £1.50p is now being discussed by the Stock Exchange Council. In addition it is hoped that the concession period, at which you can open and close options at no extra costs, is hoped to be extended from three to five days.

Traditional options again had a quiet time

Wall Street

New York, April 1.—Stock prices were mixed in moderate trading this morning. The Dow Jones industrial average was less than a point lower but advances outnumbered declines about seven-to-three.

Ashland Oil gained 4¾. It said yesterday that it expects higher fiscal first half earnings from *operations and investments.*

Amdahl gained 1½ to 20½ and Storage Technology ½ to 14¾. The *companies* signed a letter of intent to merge.

On Monday the market added to *Friday's sharp gain on bargain* hunting and the belief that the worst of the silver crisis is over. *The Dow Jones* industrial average rose more than eight points to 785.75 and advances led declines by more than eleven to four. Turnover slowed to about 36m shares from 46.72m shares traded on Friday.

The market opened strong, fell back a little just after midday, *but quickly regained* its upward momentum. Analysts said investors were encouraged by the market's ability to resist a decline after the D-J industrial average turned lower.

One observer also said some investors were encouraged when the decline in Howard Johnson stock failed to carry over into the market.

One analyst said investors also responded favourably to the 0.2 per cent decline in the American index of leading indicators for February. He noted that although the *decline was expected* it is seen as a slowing in the economy which could take some of the upward pressure off interest rates.

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices given in the table relate to Monday's close. Later publication is caused by the change to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

New York, March 31.—The *Stock Market added to Friday's* sharp gain on bargain hunting and the belief that the worst of the silver crisis is over.

Belief that crisis over

SILVER: April, 141.00-142.50c; May, 190.50c; June, 193.50c; July, 197.50c; Sept, 304.70c; Dec, 312.70c; Jan, 215.40c; March, 220.80c; May, 226.20c; July, 231.60c; Sept, 237.00c; Dec, 244.00c; Jan, 246.30c. **GOLD:** April, $500.0-502.0; May, $509.5; June, $517.0-521.0; Aug, $536.0-538.0; Oct, $553.2; Dec, $568.0-579.0; Feb, $587.4; April, $604.5; June, $631.6; Aug, $638.7; Oct, $655.8; Dec, $672.9; Feb, $690. **COPPER** futures closed a quiet session down.—April, 85.50c; May, 87.00-87.10c; July, 90.00-90.20c; Sept, 91.90-92.30c; Dec, 94.70c; Jan, 95.60c; March, 97.40c; May, 99.20c; July, 101.00c; Sept, 102.70c; Dec, 105.30c; Jan, 106.10c.

	Mar 31	Mar 28
Allied Chem	44½	44½
Allied Stores	20¾	19⅝
Allis Chalmers	24⅝	24¾
Alcoa	55⅜	57⅞
Amax Inc	42	41⅞
Amerada Hess	43⅜	43¼
Am Airlines	8⅝	8½
Am Brands	59¼	59¾
Am Broadcast	32	30⅛
Am Can	29	28¾
Am Cyanamid	26¼	24⅞
Am Elec Power	16	15⅞
Am Home	24⅞	24½
Am Motors	6⅞	6
Am Nat Res	43⅝	43¼
Am Standard	49¾	48½
Am Telephone	48⅝	49½
AMP Inc	12⅞	12⅜
Armco Steel	27⅛	25⅞
Asarco	33	30⅛
Ashland Oil	30⅜	28½
Atlntic Richfield	85⅞	84½
Avco	29½	30⅛
Avon Products	34⅛	33
Bankers Tst NY	39⅞	37½
Bank of America	23½	22⅞
Bank of NY	28½	27½
Beatrice Foods	17⅞	17¼
Bell & Howell	18⅞	19
Bendix	44⅛	42
Bethlehem Steel	20⅛	20¼
Boeing	53⅛	54
Boise Cascade	29⅞	29
Borden	20⅜	20⅛
Borg Warner	32⅞	32
Bristol Myers	32⅞	32
BP	30½	30⅛
Burlington Ind	15½	15⅛
Burlington Nthn	56⅞	56½
Burroughs	66⅝	65⅞
Campbell Soup	26⅝	26¼
Canadian Pacific	33⅛	32⅝
Caterpillar	47⅞	47⅛
Celanese	41⅞	41⅛
Central Soya	10⅝	10½
Chase Manhat	36¼	36
Chem Bank NY	34½	33¾
Chesapeake Ohio	26⅞	26⅞
Chrysler	6¼	6⅛
Citicorp	18⅝	18
Cities Service	87½	88⅝
Clark Equip	30⅞	30⅝
Coca Cola	31½	31½
Colgate	11⅞	11¾
CBS	47	45⅛
Columbia Gas	37½	37
Combustion Eng	52	50¼
Comwlth Edison	18⅝	18
Conoco	44⅞	44½
Cons Edison	21⅛	21⅛
Cons Foods	20⅞	20½
Cons Power	16⅛	15⅞
Continental Grp	26⅞	25⅞
Control Data	46⅝	45
Corning Glass	50	50
CPC Intnl	57⅛	56⅝
Crane	36½	37
Crocker Int	25½	24½
Crown Zeller	36⅞	35¼
Dart Ind	39	37½
Deere	31⅞	31⅛
Delta Air	34⅞	34⅛
Detroit Edison	11⅛	11⅛
Disney	44½	43⅞
Dow Chemical	31¼	30⅞
Dresser Ind	52⅞	51⅞
Duke Power	15⅞	15¾
Du Pont	34⅞	34⅛
Eastern Air	7	6⅞
Eastman Kodak	47½	47⅛
Eaton Corp	22⅞	22⅛
El Paso Nat Gas	19⅛	18⅝
Equitable Life	13⅞	13
Esmark	27⅛	27⅛
Evans P. D.	18⅞	18½
Exxon Corp	57⅞	57
Fed Dept Stores	22⅞e	23¼
Firestone	6⅞	6⅞
Fst Chicago	13	12⅞
Fst Nat Boston	20⅛	20½
Fst Penn Corp	7⅛	5½
Ford	29⅛	28⅞
GAF Corp	8½	8¼
Gamble Skogmo	31¼	30⅛
Gen Dynamics	67⅞	67⅛
Gen Electric	48⅛	47⅞
Gen Foods	26	26
Gen Mills	22⅞	22⅝
Gen Motors	46½	46½
Gen Pub Util NY	4⅛	4½
Gen Tel Elec	25	24⅛
Gen Tire	13⅞	13½
Genesco	3	[illegible]
Georgia Pacific	25	24⅞
Getty Oil	73	70
Gillette	20⅛	19½
Goodrich	18⅛	17⅛
Goodyear	11⅛	11⅛
Gould Inc	22⅞	22⅞
Grace	34⅞	33⅞
Gt Atlic & Pacific	5	5⅛
Greyhound	15½	15¼
Grumman Corp	20⅞	20⅛
Gulf Oil	39	38⅞
Gulf & West	16⅞	16½
Heinz H. J.	36⅞	[illegible]
Hercules	16⅜	16⅛
Honeywell	72⅞	74
IC Inds	20⅛	19
Ingersoll	51½	52
Inland Steel	28½	28⅛
IBM	55⅞	55⅞
Int Harvester	26½	26⅞
INCO	22⅞	23⅛
Int Paper	35¼	33⅜
Int Tel Tel	24⅞	24⅞
Irving Bank	30½	31
Jewel Co	23⅛	22¼
Jim Walter	20½	23⅞
Johns-Manville	18⅞	18⅞
Johnson & John	71	69
Kaiser Alumin	19	18½
Kennecott	29	29½
Kerr McGee	58⅞	57¼
Kimberly Clark	40⅛	40½
Kraftco Corp	40⅞	40½
K Mart	19⅞	18½
Kroger	15⅞	14⅞
Ligget Group	35½	35⅛
L.T.V. Corp	10	9⅞
Litton	47⅞	46⅞
Lockheed	28	26
Lucky Stores	15	14½
Manuf Hanover	29	28½
Mapco	35	34⅞
Marathon Oil	55	52⅞
Marine Midland	12½	12⅛
Martin Marietta	44	43⅛
McDonnell	39½	38⅞
Mead	23⅛	21⅛
Memorex	11⅞	11⅞
Merck	67½	64⅞
Minnesota Mng	48⅞	48⅞
Mobil Oil	65⅞	64
Monsanto	47	47½
Morgan J. P.	42½	42¼
Motorola	52⅞	52
NCR Corp	58⅞	58½
NL Industries	36⅞	35⅝
Nabisco	19⅞	19⅞
Nat Distillers	24⅞	23⅞
Nat Steel	28⅞	28
Norfolk West	25½	24⅞
NW Bancorp	20	19⅞
Norton Simon	11⅞	11⅞
Occidental Pet	22⅞	22½
Ogden	28½	28⅛
Olin Corp	15⅛	15
Owens-Illinois	21⅞	21¼
Pacific Gas Elec	20½	19⅞
Pan Am	4⅞	4⅛
Penney J. C.	22⅞	21⅞
Pennzoil	38⅞	38½
Pepsico	23⅛	21⅞
Pfizer	37⅞	37
Phelps Dodge	30⅛	28⅞
Philip Morris	34⅞	34⅞
Phillips Petrol	41	41½
Polaroid	19⅛	19⅞
PPG Ind	28⅞	28⅛
Proctor Gamble	67⅛	65⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	16⅞	16⅛

	Mar 31
Pullman	
Rapid American	16
Raytheon	
RCA Corp	
Republic Steel	
Reynolds Ind	
Reynolds Metal	
Rockwell Int	
Royal Dutch	
Safeways	
St Regis Paper	
Santa Fe Ind	
SCM	19
Schlumberger	
Scott Paper	
Seaboard Coast	
Seagram	
Sears Roebuck	
Shell Oil	
Shell Trans	
Signal Co	
Singer	
Sony	
Sth Cal Edison	
Southern Pacific	
Southern Rly	
Sperry Corp	
Std Brands	
Std Oil Califnia	
Std Oil Indiana	
Std Oil Ohio	
Sterling Drug	
Stevens J. P.	
Sunbeam Corp	
Sun Comp	
Teledyne	
Tenneco	
Texaco	
Texas East Corp	
Texas Inst	
Texas Utilities	
Textron	
TWA	
Travelers Corp	
TRW Inc	
UAL Inc	
Union Carbide	
Union Oil Calif	
Un Pacific Corp	
Uniroyal	
United Brands	
US Industries	
US Steel	
Utd Technol	
Wachovia	
Warner Lambert	
Wells Fargo	
West'n Bancorp	
Westnghse Elec	
Weyerhaeuser	30
Whirlpool	
White Motor	
Woolworth	
Xerox Corp	
Zenith	

Canadian Prices

Abitibi	19
Alcan Alumin	
Algoma Steel	
Bell Telephone	
Cominco	
Cons Bathurst	
Falconbridge	
Gulf Oil	
Hawker/Sid Can	
Hudson Bay Mng	
Hudson Bay Oil	
Imasco	
Imperial Oil	
Int Pipe	
Mass-Ferguson	
Royal Trust	
Seagram	
Steel Co	
Talcorp	
Thomson N 'A'	
Walker Hiram	
WCT	

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Sto… § Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 2.1520 (2.1787); three months, 2.1448 (2.1844). Canadian dollar 1.1945 (1.1871).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 407.89 (412.35). The futures index was 420.38 (422.88).

SUGAR futures, after deflecting nervous speculative selling from the Comex silver futures rallied sharply near the close.—May, 19.65-19.75c; July, 20.44c; Sept, 21.25c; Oct, 21.50-21.65c; Jan, 22.50-22.85c; March, 23.50-23.55c; May, 23.90c; July, 24.10-24.15c.

COTTON: May, 85.12c; July, 83.50-83.95c; Oct, 79.60-79.90c; Dec, 74.35-75.80c; March, 75.00c; May, 77.00-77.25c; July, 77.50-78.00c.

COFFEE: May, 182.35c; July, 186.50-186.90c; Sept, 192.50c; Dec, 185.00-185.50c; March, 178.49-178.75c; May, 178.75-179.90c; July, 180.99c.

COCOA: Speculative liquidation and fresh selling amid generally nervous conditions in commodity markets resulted in cocoa futures closing with pared losses.—May, 132.00-133.40c; July, 130.40-130.80c; Sep, 132.05-132.53c; Dec, 294.5-295.5c; 296.0-297.0c; July, 310.0c.

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 785.75 (777.65); transportation, 246.30 (240.21); utilities (97.73); 65 stocks, 282.72

New York Stock Exchange 57.65.

CHICAGO GRAINS: CORN closed 1½c to 3½c a bushel … May, 258-258½c; July, 270… Sep, 281½-282c; Dec, 289… March, 302½c; May, 312½c.

SOYABEANS.—May, 585… July, 608½-608c; Aug, 61… Sept, 627c; Nov 647-649½c; J… 666c; March, 684-685c; May, …

SOYABEAN OIL: May, 20.7… July, 21.33-21.36c; Aug, 21.6… Sept, 21.90-21.95c; Oct, 22.2… 22.65-22.70c; Jan 22.85c; 23.25c; May, 23.60c; July 23.95c.

SOYABEAN MEAL: May, $16… July, $168.5-168.7; Aug, $17… $176.8-175.8; Oct, $178.1-17… $183.0-182.5; Jan, $18… March, $191.5; May, $19… July, $197.6.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1979/80 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers.			
		72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5041			
[illegible]	48.1	American Growth	48.1	51.7	1.93
42.1	34.4	Capital	35.2	38.1e	4.04
57.4	46.0	General	45.3	48.9	5.05
104.3	101.3	Gilt & Fixed Int	99.7	106.1	4.71
49.3	40.6	Income	40.4	43.9	5.94
[illegible]	95.2	Int Bond	94.2	99.7	5.52
42.4	32.9	Investment	35.6	38.7	6.45
77.1	67.5	Equitas Prog	67.5	73.0	6.14
		Albert Trust Managers Ltd.			
		Durrant Hse, Chiswell St, EC1 Y4TT 01-588 6371			
94.0	80.9	Albert Trust* (3)	84.4	90.8e	5.96
84.7	60.1	Do Inc* (3)	68.4	73.5e	5.96
		Allied Hambro Group.			
		Hambro Hse, Hutton, Essex. 01-588 2851			
87.6	70.9	Allied Capital	73.3	78.4e	5.61
83.0	70.8	Do 1st	73.0	78.1	6.15
81.8	66.0	Brit Inds	67.1	71.8	6.27
[illegible]	38.4	Growth & Inc	40.4	43.2	5.83
43.7	35.3	Elec & Ind Dev	[illegible]	39.7	5.29
63.5	42.6	Met Min & Cmdty	56.5	60.5	4.88
79.0	66.7	High Income	67.1	71.9e	6.22
16.0	39.4	Equity Income	39.8	42.6e	8.19
31.1	26.3	International	26.4	28.2e	3.84
84.1	69.3	High Yield Fnd	66.0	69.8e	10.65
129.4	111.4	Hambro Fnd	114.4	122.4	6.09
122.3	102.3	Do Recovery	110.8	118.6	6.53
70.9	39.3	Do Smaller	47.2	50.5	4.65
155.3	130.8	Do Accum	139.9	149.7	5.61
62.4	52.0	2nd Smaller	54.9	58.7e	4.86
62.2	54.8	Secs of America	[illegible]	59.4	2.30
48.1	38.0	Pacific Fnd	43.2	46.2	2.74
70.4	53.5	Overseas Fnd	57.8	61.5	5.53
79.8	63.0	Exempt Smaller	70.5	74.4e	5.24
		Arbuthnot Securities Ltd.			
		37 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BY. 01-236 5281			
99.9	63.3	Commodity (5)	71.3	77.7	3.56
131.0	92.6	Do Accum (5)	107.8	117.5	3.56
60.3	53.3	10% W'draw (5)	57.1	62.2	3.56
32.2	24.5	E & Int Fund	25.0	27.9e	1.00
20.6	16.3	Do W'draw (2)	18.6	20.0e	1.00
118.3	92.2	Extra Income	99.4	99.5	11.07
119.9	103.7	Do Accum	96.6	104.5	11.07
21.8	16.3	Fin & Prop (3)	18.9	20.4	5.30
105.5	40.8	Foreign (4)	96.9	104.6	1.64
47.3	29.9	Gilt & Fixed (3)	39.5	43.4	8.35
41.3	29.9	Do Accum (3)	40.4	44.4	8.35
36.3	33.4	Growth Fund	32.7	35.3	4.48
46.6	29.9	Do Accum	41.4	44.4	4.48
40.6	33.8	High Income	33.4	36.0	12.24
54.7	53.6	Do Accum	52.4	56.5	12.24
61.5	48.5	8% W'draw	44.4	46.5	12.24
50.4	42.2	High Yield Fnd	40.1	43.3e	12.36
79.3	67.7	Do Accum	65.8	71.0e	12.36
32.3	27.4	N Amer Int (4)	26.7	28.8	1.00
35.6	29.5	Pref Fund	31.5	33.4e	13.98
41.3	40.5	Do Accum	39.3	42.9e	13.98
32.7	29.6	Smaller Co's	27.5	29.6	5.06
		Barclays Unicorn Ltd.			
		252 Romford Road, London, E7. 01-534 5544			

1979/80 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Chieftain Trust Managers Ltd.			
		11 New St, London, EC2M 4TP 01-283 2632			
24.7	20.7	American Fnd	20.7	22.5e	2.81
[illegible]	[illegible]	Basic Resources	44.6	48.0e	2.84
25.0	22.0	Far Eastern	21.8	23.5	1.06
46.3	36.2	High Income	36.8	39.4	10.04
30.1	22.8	Inc & Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
34.0	23.3	International	27.6	30.0	1.91
24.6	[illegible]	Prof & Gilts	22.0	23.9	13.74
37.1	26.0	Smaller Co's	[illegible]	26.3	4.37
		Crescent Unit Trust Managers Ltd.			
		4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh. 031-226 4931			
27.9	24.5	American Fnd	24.4	26.4	1.42
62.8	55.9	International	55.1	59.5	2.94
42.0	41.7	Reserves Fnd	41.3	44.6e	5.45
47.1	42.2	High Dist	39.1	42.2e	11.35
		E. F. Winchester Fund Mngt Ltd.			
		44 Bloomsbury Sq, WC1A 2RA. 01-623 8893			
18.0	18.6	Gt Winchester	17.4	19.3	7.18
20.8	19.6	Do Overseas	20.3	22.6	5.43
		Equity & Law Unit Trust Managers Ltd.			
		Amersham Rd, H Wycombe, Bucks. 0494 32515			
83.3	62.5	Equity & Law	60.6	73.2e	5.72
		Fidelity International Management Ltd.			
		62/63 Queen St, London, EC4R 1AD. 01-248 4891			
28.6	23.5	Fixed Int	26.2	26.6	13.00
29.7	23.5	Growth & Inc	29.5	30.0	5.10
30.5	23.5	Special Sits	27.0	28.9	3.80
27.6	22.3	American	23.2	24.5	1.00
		James Finlay Unit Trust Management Ltd.			
		10-14 West Nile St, Glasgow. 041-204 1321			
29.3	24.2	Int (3)	24.7	26.6	2.77
35.6	25.7	Accum (3)	30.0	32.2	2.77
37.4	32.8	Inc (3)	31.0	33.3e	10.61
27.0	20.9	Euro Fin (3)	19.4	20.9e	4.11
[illegible]	28.7	Fund Inv (3)	30.2	32.5	3.76
		Framlington Unit Management Ltd.			
		64 London Wall, EC2. [illegible]			
55.4	45.8	American (1)	46.6	49.6	1.45
53.4	45.2	Am Turnr'nd (1)	45.4	48.2	2.00
56.3	46.2	Capital	[illegible]	53.4e	5.06
56.3	48.2	Capital Accum	51.0	54.2	5.06
[illegible]	49.4	Extra Income	46.6	49.4	10.65
[illegible]	34.2	Income	[illegible]	38.0	8.78
45.4	40.4	Int Growth	[illegible]	43.4	2.32
47.3	42.0	Do Accum	47.4	46.0	2.32
		Friends Provident Unit Trust Managers Ltd.			
		Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey. 0306-5055			
54.0	45.0	Friends Prov	47.2	50.4	5.06
72.3	60.5	Do Accum	65.0	69.3	5.05
		Funds in Court.			
		Public Trustee, Kingsway, WC2. 01-405 4300			
122.4	102.1	Capital*	109.5	112.9	5.52
90.6	70.5	Gross Income*	73.1	75.3	11.69
103.4	80.3	High Yield*	81.0	83.9e	11.29
		G and A Unit Trust Managers Ltd.			
		5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300			
40.9	33.3	G & A	35.6	38.0	5.47
		G.T. Unit Managers Ltd.			
		16 Finsbury Circus, EC2M 7DD. 01-628 8131			
123.8	96.0	GT Cap	111.4	119.5	3.90
150.8	105.2	Do Accum	140.1	149.0	3.90
57.4	47.5	Far East & Gen	48.3	51.9	2.90
67.2	47.5	Four Yards Fnd	43.4	46.5	7.00
104.9	143.0	Do Income	160.6	170.9e	9.30

Stock Exchange Prices

Strong buying

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 24. Dealings End, April 11. § Contango Day, April 14. Settlement Day, April 21

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Residential property

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An attractive Tudor family house within easy reach of London

4 6 2 Oil 2 5

Additional features: Self contained wing. Solar heated swimming pool.

For sale freehold with about 7 acres.

Apply: LONDON OFFICE (Tel. 01-629 8171) (MP/69467)

SUSSEX/KENT BORDER
Tunbridge Wells 3 miles.

A superb listed 16th century manor in an elevated position.

3 6/7 4 Oil 2 H 5 Hi

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Kintbury. Newbury 5 miles. Hungerford 3 miles.

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4 5 2 Oil 3

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HERTFORDSHIRE
Cuffley. Potters Bar 2½ miles. (Kings Cross about 20 minutes)

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3 6 2 Gas 4 H

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In a lovely unspoilt valley close to the Thames. M4 15 minutes.

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Charming Period House: with 4 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Guest Annexe. Lovely Gardens. Paddock. 4¼ Acres. **Stable House:** with 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, dressing room. Excellent stabling and outbuildings. Garden ½ Acre. **Clock House:** Lovely old timbered Barn incorporating a Maisonette with 8 rooms. Ideal for conversion (subject to Planning permission). Additional stabling. 4 car garage. ½ Acre. **Orchard Lodge:** A detached Colt Bungalow with 1 reception, 2 bedrooms, bathroom. Garden and Orchard. ½ Acre. Further stabling and buildings.
Paddocks and woodland available in Lots.
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WITH VACANT POSSESSION.
For sale by Auction in 9 Lots (unless previously sold privately) on 23rd April, 1980.
Apply: **John D. Wood, Berkeley Square Office (Ref. DCM) or Martin & Pole, John D. Wood, 4-5 High Street, Goring-on-Thames. Tel. (04914) 2521.**

EAST SHEEN, Close to Richmond Park
AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL APPOINTED HOUSE in a quiet position, extremely well fitted and in superb order throughout, with spacious, light reception rooms, ideal for entertaining.
Entrance hall, reception/ staircase hall, drawing room, library/sitting room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, cloakroom/sauna with shower. 2 suites of bedroom and bathroom, 3 further bedrooms and bathroom. Playroom. Full gas-fired central heating. Garage. Attractive Garden.
Freehold for Sale.
Apply: **Berkeley Square Office (Ref. PDCE)**

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Salisbury 11 miles. Warminster 9 miles.

AN OUTSTANDING COUNTRY HOUSE with easily managed accommodation, standing in a small park with fine views over the Wylye Valley.

Elegant hall, cloakroom, cellar, fine panelled drawing room, study, dining room, well-equipped kitchen, utility room. Principal bedroom with adjoining dressing room and bathroom. 4 further bedrooms with 4 adjoining bathrooms. 3 attic bedrooms. Excellent Staff Flat. Oil-fired central heating. Modernised 3 bedroomed Cottage. *Attractive Stable Block with stabling and garaging.* Easily managed garden with hard tennis court. Walled kitchen garden. 2 Paddocks.
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Apply: **Winchester Office (Ref. MLD)**

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A CHARMING SMALL HOUSE of considerable character in a delightful rural setting with a very attractive garden.

Entrance hall, cloakroom, sitting room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, 2 bedrooms, dressing room, sewing room, bathroom. Oil central heating. Garage. Workshop. Garden room. Old established garden. IN ALL ABOUT ¼ ACRE.

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Joint Auctioneers: **Wood, Evatt & Gardner, Tel. Forest Row (034282) 2255 and John D. Wood, 11 Market Square, Horsham. Tel. (0403) 60374/62835/63843.**

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01-629 9050 Telex 21242

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MANOR HOUS

situated in an elevated [illegible] with extensive views [illegible] open country. Set in [illegible] of 30 acres offering [illegible] privacy and surround[illegible] farmland. Easy access to [illegible] ways and main line [illegible] Impressive Entrance H[illegible] staircase. 3/4 reception [illegible] Extensive domestic offic[illegible] bedrooms. Attic room[illegible] fired central heating. [illegible] block with 3 bed. fla[illegible] 5 loose boxes. 2 ha[illegible] weather championship [illegible] courts. Heated swimmin[illegible] 3 bed. detached cottag[illegible] available if required.

JOHN GERMAN RALPH
Ramsbury, Marlborough
Tel.: (06722) 691.

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LUDLOW

One of the oldest houses [illegible] town dating from th[illegible] century with delightful [illegible] of the River Tame. [illegible] timbered Tudor interior [illegible] ception rooms, breakfas[illegible] 2 staircases, 5 bedrooms [illegible] room and shower room. [illegible] floor, 2 bedrooms. C[illegible] tral heating. Small gar[illegible] standing for 3 cars. [illegible] over £60,000
JOHN GERMAN RA[illegible]
PAY
45 HIGH STREE[illegible]
SHREWSBURY SY1[illegible]
Tel: (0743) [illegible]

OXON/NORTHA[illegible]
BORDER

Oxford 16 miles. [illegible] ised period village [illegible] spacious accomm[illegible] conveniently situated [illegible] village, 3 reception roo[illegible] chen, breakfast room, [illegible] bedrooms, bathroom [illegible] room. Useful outbuildi[illegible] cluding The Old School [illegible] for conversion. Mature [illegible] paddocks. 2½ acres [illegible] For Sale Freehold.

BRIGHTON, off Kemptown [illegible] near old Steine. [illegible] modernized town house [illegible] charm. Through lounge [illegible] built pine kitchen at [illegible] room. 3 beds., [illegible] £55,000. Tel. 602331.

Jackson-Stops & Staff

SURREY
Reigate 4 miles. M25 3 miles

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WHITEBAYS, WARREN DRIVE
Hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Integral garage. Garden. About ⅓ acre

Adjoining plot with outline planning permission for one detached house. About 0.4 acre

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Apply Joint Auctioneers: Ibbett, Mosely, Card & Co., 67 High Street, Reigate, Surrey. Tel. Reigate 45441 or

Jackson-Stops & Staff, 14 Curzon Street, London W1Y 7FH Tel. (01) 499 6291

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A PERIOD COUNTRY HOUSE in a rural setting. Listed Grade II. 3 reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, 4 principal bedrooms, 3/4 *secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Full oil-fired* central heating. Double garage, stabling and large brick barn. About 3 Acres, including paddock.

OFFERS AROUND £59,000

Apply: 163 High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 9AJ. Tel. (0638) 2231. (Ref. 5310)

BEDFORDSHIRE
Bedford 7 miles, M1 (access 14) 11 miles

THE FIRS—CARLTON. A fine detached stone built house set in grounds of about 1 acre. In need of further modernisation.

Entrance hall, sitting room, dining room, study/sun lounge, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, garage, *outbuildings, stable.*

Large garden with orchard and kitchen garden

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Solicitors: Borneo Marlett & Co. Tel. Bedford 653414.

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Hall, cloakroom, 3/4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and shower room. Central heating.

Two garages. Charming garden and paddock 1½ Acres.

Private Treaty

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Appointments Vacant
also on pages 18 and 28

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(With special reference to Management Policy) in the DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES. Salary range £5,052-£6,504 p.a. Duties to commence 1st September (or as soon as possible thereafter).

Applications (2 copies), together with the names and addresses of two referees should be forwarded to the Vice-Principal (Administration) and Registrar, University College, P.O. Box 78, Cardiff CF1 1XL, from whom further particulars will be available. Ref. 1093. Closing date 1st May 1980.

University of Manchester

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Applications are invited for this post. The successful candidate will have interest and should have a teaching and research interest in one or more of the following areas: German, Russian or Classical literature. Interest in organizing practical project and understanding and/or supervising Studio and Theatre Arts productions is essential. Initial salary range (at 1979) £5,052-£6,504 depending on qualifications. Superannuation. Particulars and application forms (returnable by April 25th) from the Registrar, The University, Manchester M13 9PL. Quote ref. 71 80 T.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University College Cardiff

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Modern detached Architect designed house. South aspect. Hall, cloakroom, lounge/dining room, 3/4 beds., large study, attic, C.H., detached garage. Beautifully sit. extensive views. Mature well established garden. Nr. Common.
£175,000
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PHILBEACH GARDENS, S.W.5. Magnificent newly converted 4 bed maisonette overlooking, and with direct access to private *gardens. Large recep., well fitted* kitchen, 2 baths, own garden, gas C.H., low outgoings. £63,000 for 99 yr. lease. 01-384 8611. CPK

CONSERVATION AREA 7 miles *Westminster. Superbly appointed* Victorian house in grand order. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fine 30ft reception, fitted kitchen/*living room.* C.H., *fitted carpets.* Very original. 35ft. garden varied from beds. S.C.A. freehold £37,950. Buccleigh, 01-601 1515 (S).

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On the South West Surrey/West Sussex border

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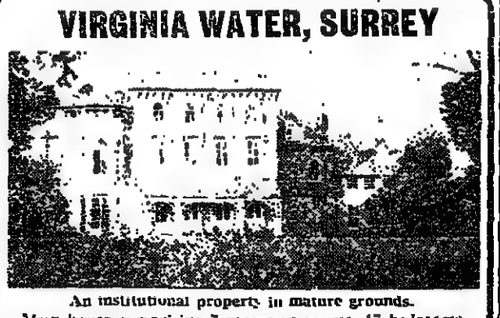
LONDON AND SUBURBAN

VIRGINIA WATER, SURREY



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An idyllic setting in the heart of the village and close to the acres of the Heath. Fine double-fronted detached property in impeccable condition throughout with superb fittings. 3 *bedrooms,* 3 *bathrooms,* 4 reception rooms including 30 ft. library, library, kitchen breakfast room. Laundry *room. C.H. Delightful gardens.* Freehold £210,000
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DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

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The principal rooms have southerly downland views and the house which is sheltered by mature woodland has 3 reception rooms, hall, loggia, large kitchen, domestic offices, cloakroom and cellar. 8 main bedrooms and 3 bathrooms including a double suite with dressing room. 3 good 2nd floor rooms and bathroom 4. Garaging, oil heating, easily maintained terraced lawned garden, paddock and staff bungalow.

Farm yard and paddock.
2 semi-detached period cottages.
40 ACRES in all (Grade 3 land).
The 2 cottages and 20 acres subject to tenancy. The remainder with vacant possession.

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Tel: (0865) 40801 and
5 St. Martin's Street, WALLINGFORD
Tel: (0491) 36551
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Palmer Snell
Chartered Surveyors,
Court Ash, Yeovil, Somerset
0935 23025

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Telephone:
Southampton 785188
SOLICITORS OFFICE:— MOUNTBERRY MORRIS & CO. *17 CASTLE STREET, READING*

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2 miles from the Helford River. A superb house in dignified setting protected by National Trust land and with private access to a sheltered beach. Immaculately modernised and centrally heated throughout. Main house—fine *entrance hall,* cloaks, drawing rm., sitting rm., din rm., study. Superbly fitted kit. with adj. breakfast area. Sauna and recreation room, boiler/utility rm., Workshop and freezer rm. Master suite including principal bed., lux. bath., dressing rm. 4 other principal beds., guests bath., w.c., self contained guest wing includ. 2 further beds., and intriguing turret rm. Staff Cottage—2 beds., bath., 2 recep., *kit./breakfast rm.* 2 adj. *store rms.* Beautiful gardens & pic wooded in parts. Fine outbuilding range. In all 9 ACRES. Freehold. To auction (unless sold) May 29th.

Apply: **Cathedral Chambers, 13 High Cross, Truro. Tel. 77451.**

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(5 miles Plymouth). *Charming XVII Century Vicarage re[illegible]* some renovation and modernisation in this delightful position. Enjoying extensive river/country views. Sp[illegible] accommodation offers 4 reception, 6 beds., 2 baths., [illegible] utility rms. partial oil fired CH, possible 5/6 further beds [illegible] floor. Private gdns of approx. ¾ acre with useful 2 storey [illegible] garage block & cobbled courtyard. The interior would [illegible] *divide or suit guest house use (subject to consent).* Price £45,/50,000. Ref. P 6084/IMB.

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THE ACCOMMODATION COMPRISES: entrance hall, three [illegible] reception rooms, large modern farmhouse style kitchen, clo[illegible] laundry room, and workshop. First floor: five bedrooms a[illegible] bathrooms.

To facilitate viewing over Easter holidays, telephone the Chesterfield 6713

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Property

Go in for a home with no stairs

Single-storey homes have a rly widespread appeal, parularly to those approach- retirement age. Apart m saving the effort of ming up and down stairs, se buildings are thought ier to maintain both out- e and in.

Modern bungalows have en described as somewhat mped and lacking in racter, but now and again aptations and conversions duce buildings out of the linary.

One good example of this kind of property is The Old Lodge, at South Chailey, Sussex. It was formed about 20 years ago from two lodges on either side of an estate drive. The buildings, thought to be about 200 years old, were linked to each other to form the main living room.

The accommodation is made up of a lounge nearly 24ft long, a sitting room and a dining room, plus four main bedrooms and a store room which could be converted into a fifth bedroom. There is about an acre of gardens and grounds. The price is £69,500 and the agents are Braxtons of Uckfield.

Another unusual property is Riverside, at Parham near Framlingham in Suffolk, formed from two old railway carriages. This form of housing was widespread soon after the First World War, particularly on the south coast where many examples are still to be seen.

The carriages were placed side by side, with the space between used for the main living accommodation. Riverside has a main living room, four bedrooms, a kitchen and a bathroom. Apart from its design, the main feature of the property is its fine setting in about one and a half acres of gardens, bordered on two sides by the River Orr. The price is £35,000 and the agents are Abbotts of Framlingham.

Also in Suffolk, but very much in the traditional farmhouse style is Webbs Farm in Boxford Road, Milden, near Lavenham. The building is partly moated and believed to date from the sixteenth century.

It is built partly of brick and with a massive timber frame and lath and plaster under a tiled roof. Main accommodation includes two reception rooms, a conservatory, three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

The gardens and grounds, which include the remains of the moat run to about three acres. A large garage block has a studio about 26ft 6in long above it and—subject to planning permission—could be converted into staff or guest accommodation.

Webbs Farm, at Milden, Suffolk, partially moated and probably on the site of an earlier house.

Another picturesque outbuilding is a thatched granary of brick and flint with a dovecote. The price is £90,000 and the agents are Sworders, of Sudbury.

Rather more extensive accommodation is provided by Eastney Farm House at Northney, North Hayling Island in Hampshire. It is reputed to have its origins in the fifteenth century and main accommodation includes two reception rooms and four bedrooms.

There is also an annexe, formerly a dairy, large bedsitting room and its own kitchen and bathroom. Further space is provided by a detached cottage with a sitting room and three bedrooms.

The land runs to about three-quarters of an acre and the outbuildings include a large timber barn. A price of £95,000 is being asked and the agents are Whiteheads of Havant.

Herefordshire is an area where it is sometimes possible to obtain quite a large house for a relatively low price. A good example is provided by an Edwardian house in Bodenham Road, Hereford, which is for sale for about £50,000.

On the ground floor there is a reception hall with a beamed ceiling, as well as an inner hall, together with two main reception rooms and a study. Above this are four bedrooms and two bathrooms, with an additional three rooms and a third bathroom on the second floor.

This space could be converted into a separate flat.

There are also three cellar store rooms in the property. Agents for the house are Bernard Thorpe and Partners of Hereford.

The Old Rectory, in the village of Little Ellingham, about 18 miles from Norwich in Norfolk also provides a great deal of living space. It is a red brick Georgian building with a partly pantiled roof and sash windows. The rooms have the good proportions typical of the period and there is some fine decorative cornice work.

There are two main reception rooms, a combined kitchen, breakfast and general family room, plus five bedrooms and a dressing room. There is also a large second floor room.

Outbuildings include stabling and the partly walled grounds run to about two acres, with a paddock. Offers of about £80,000 are being asked through Savills of Norwich.

The London office of the same agents is dealing with The Mill Barn House, at Bassingbourn, near Royston, on the borders of Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire.

The building dates from the early nineteenth century and was originally a granary for Bassingbourn Mill. The conversion was carried out in 1974. It is constructed of brick with weatherboarded walls under a slate roof.

The interior layout is unusual in that the ground floor contains a dining room, study, kitchen, three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

On the first floor is a drawing room 57ft long with a vaulted beamed ceiling, plus a main bedroom and bathroom suite. The garden is intersected by the mill stream. The price is £90,000.

Somebody looking for a small cottage in deep countryside would be interested in Winnells, in Mill Lane, Hartley Wespall, Hampshire, which is surrounded by farmland.

It is built of brick, partly tile hung and with a tiled roof, and has two reception rooms, a sun room and two bedrooms. It is for sale at about £55,000 through Pearsons of Basingstoke.

Gerald Ely

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PERSONAL CHOICE

The Mortimer family whose home becomes a fortress in Southern Television's new serial Noah's Castle (ITV, 4.45). Left to right: Simon Gipps-Kent, Annette Ekblom, Jean Rimmer, Louise Olley, David Neal and Marcus Francis.

● Success stories are ten a penny. Not so tales of failure, except when they are industrial in nature and then they become national disasters. Arena (BBC 2, 7.50) has opted for personal rather than corporate failures in compiling its highly original programme tonight. There is a lady who has 39 times failed her driving test; the Norwegian singer who scored zero at a Eurovision song contest; and the hapless Commander Bill Boakes who has lost 21 deposits in parliamentary elections. The twin presenters of the programme seem to possess the right qualifications: David McGillivray, though commissioned to write a book about failure, failed to do so, and Stephen Piles was suspended from the Not Terribly Good Club of Great Britain because his book Heroic Failures became a bestseller. Additional irony lies in the fact that it was he who founded the club.

● What Orwell did for grown-ups—scare the living daylights out of them with his view of the future, 1984—John Rowe Townsend did for youngsters in his book Noah's Castle. It has now been adapted by Mick McCarthy as a seven-part serial (ITV, 4.45). Mr Townsend has conceived a nightmare world in which inflation has not so much hit the ceiling as gone through the roof: £1,500 won't buy a box of matches. A man turns the family home into a fortress and the cellar into a vast pantry. Outside, the mobs roam, the queues of starving people lengthen, and informers prey on hoarders. As you can see, Noah's Castle is not the usual TV fare that is set before young viewers.

● Tonight's Open Secret, The DBCP File (BBC 1, 9.25) is frankly alarming. It is about the pesticide which, when processed in Britain three years ago, made a group of workers sterile. It could even cause cancer, some experts claim. There are interviews with the affected workers, with Mexican farmers who still use DBCP, and with the president of a Los Angeles company that continues to manufacture it, but for export only because its use is banned throughout the United States.

● Presumably in response to thousands of requests (there cannot have been fewer than that, surely), Radio 4 is repeating Fat Man on a Bicycle (7.20) in which the generously proportioned Tom Vernon cycles through France and finds an amusing tale at practically every revolution of the wheels. . . . Hannah Gordon and Richard Pascoe read poems by the Pope in Easter Vigil (Radio 4, 7.45). . . . Roy Hudd and his merry company laugh at the news in The News Huddlines (Radio 2, 10.02 pm), and I find myself laughing with them. Quintessential radio comedy, this.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.55 am Ludwig: story for children: 10.00 Jackanory: Maurice Denham reads Brigid Chard's Ferret Summer (r); 10.15 Tarzan and the Spider People (r); 10.35 Hang on Doggy: part 3 of this Hungarian film about a boy and his dog; Closedown at 11.00.
12.45 pm News and weather.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Cookery hints from the American expert Rusty Seiger. Also a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Liverpool to Manchester Railway.
1.45 Heads and Tails: With Derek Griffiths (r); Closedown at 2.00.
3.55 Play School: Len Hill tells the story of Mac and Macaw.
4.20 The Space Sentinels: Animated science fiction story: Morpheus, the Sinister Sentinel (r); 4.40 Wildtrack: New series. Tony Soper campaigns for the rights of the barn owl and Su Ingle has some tips about wild spring flowers; 5.05 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreel; 5.10 Potter's Picture Palace: Re-run of children's serial about an old cinema. With Melvyn Hayes.
5.40 News: with Richard Whitmore; 5.55 Nationwide.
6.55 Film: Deadman's Curve (1978). TV film, which tells the story (true) of two American pop stars—Jan Berry and Dean Torrence—who popularized the California surfing sound. Starring Richard Hatch and Bruce Davison.
8.30 Potter: the incorrigible fusspot (Arthur Lowe) takes charge of a family christening.
9.00 News: with Richard Baker.
9.25 Open Secret: The DBCP File. Investigative report by Peter Williams of a pesticide that causes sterility, and perhaps even cancer. Some of it was processed in East Anglia (see Personal Choice).
9.55 Sportsnight: Includes the Greyhound TV Trophy Final; the Welterweight Championship of Great Britain (Kirkland Laing v Colin Jones), and an interview with Sebastian Coe in which he talks about his Olympic hopes.
10.45 Michael Parkinson meets Tommy Steele: Repeat screening of this lovely encounter: a glorious advertisement for Tommy's show which is still running in the West End.
11.45 News headlines.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales: 5.55 pm Wales Today. 6.55 Tom and Jerry. 7.05 Heddiw. 7.30 A Question of Sport. 8.00 My Wife Next Door. 11.45 News and weather. Scotland.—12.40 pm Scottish News. 5.55 Reporting Scotland. 10.45 Is Anybody There? 11.15 Michael Parkinson meets Tommy Steele. 12.15 am News and weather. NORTHERN Ireland.—3.53 pm Northern Ireland News. 5.55 Scene Around Six. 11.45 News headlines. England.—5.55 pm Regional magazines. 11.05 Close.

BBC 2

10.20 Gharbar: For Asian women. Items on cooking, sewing. Also, music and a story. Closedown at 10.45.
11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.
2.20 pm Racing from Ascot: Live coverage of four races, the big event being the three-mile Berni Inns Long Distance Hurdle at 3.35. The others are the 2.35, 3.05 and the 4.10. Closedown at 4.25.
4.40 Film: The Ballad of Josie (1968) Little seen, under-publicized, comedy western with Doris Day as a widow trying to introduce sheep ranching in cattle country in the last century. With Peter Graves, George Kennedy, Andy Devine.
6.20 The Master Game: Twelfth game in the chess tournament. It is between Lothar Schmid, of West Germany, and Robert Byrne, of the United States. The German is now only half a point away from the final.
6.50 Outside a City Wall: The Fourth, Fifth and Six Stations of the Cross, filmed in the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem. Continues tomorrow.
7.00 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
7.10 The Silicon Factor: Last of three films about the micro-electronics revolution. Bernard Falk asks: What of the future? Also, an expert comments on the social effects of the silicon chip innovations.
7.50 Arena: Climb Every Mountain, or Nothing Succeeds Like Failure: Britain's wonderful failures. A light-hearted report by David McGillivray and Stephen Piles (see Personal Choice).
8.30 Film: Man of La Mancha (1972) Spectacular, visually ravishing musical about Don Quixote, with a couple of good songs and some mediocre ones. Peter O'Toole acts (but does not do all the singing as) the dotty knight, Sophia Loren is a perfect Dulcinea and James Coco an acceptable Sancho Panza.
10.35 Cartoon Two: The Ladder.
10.45 Newsnight: the news and current affairs programme.
11.30 Closedown: John Betjeman's poem Greek Orthodox is read by Derek Jacobi (r).

THAMES

9.30 am Australian Snakes: Short documentary about their life cycle (r).
9.50 Who's Afraid of Opera? Joan Sutherland uses puppets to try to win children over to Lucia di Lammermoor; 10.15 Conquest of the Sea: What happens on the Japanese seabed; 11.05 Young Ramsay: story of a canine hitchhiker (r); 11.55 The Bubblies: Puppet story; 12.00 Cloppa's Castle: More puppet fun, this time set in medieval days; 12.10 pm Rainbow: Zippy in the countryside.
12.30 Camera: First of 13 films about the early days of photography, presented by Gus Macdonald. How Queen Victoria got interested in the art (r).
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 Take the High Road: Serial about a Scottish estate. The arrival of an unexpected type of architect.
2.00 After Noon Plus: A tribute to Mantovani; readings by Ireland's leading poet Seamus Heaney; and the homeless 18-year-olds who were formerly in care of the local authorities.
2.45 The Outsiders: Australian outdoor stories. Charlie (Andrew Keir) and the widow; 3.45 Square One: Quiz show, compered by Nick Burnbull. Celebrities take part; 4.15 The Sooty Show: Puppet fun in the last of the series.
4.45 Noah's Castle: Episode one of a serial about a family trying to survive in a Britain where inflation has gone mad. Based on the alarming John Rowe Townsend book (see Personal Choice); 5.15 Struck by Lightning: Horror spoof, inspired by the Frankenstein story: a pilot for a new series.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.25 Help! Episode three of the serial about the trouble-prone Setback family. Tonight: Tony's industrial injury, and his compensation worries.

Frankie Howard, one of the stars in Comedy Tonight (ITV, 8.00)

6.35 Crossroads: An accident for Benny; a new lady friend for Reg.
7.00 This is Your Life: Another of Eamonn Andrew's biographical tributes.
7.30 Coronation Street: The Barber shop quartet contest, and the election for shop steward in Mike Baldwin's factory.
8.00 Comedy Tonight: All-star cast revive the comedy sketches and songs of the past half century. Famous faces and voices include those of Frank Muir, Richard Briers, Frankie Howerd, Ian Carmichael and Beryl Reid.
9.00 Best Sellers: A Man Called Intrepid. Four-part (two parts tonight) thriller about a wartime spy ring and a cipher-decoding machine. With Michael York, David Niven, Gayle Hunnicutt, Flora Robson.
10.00 News. 10.30 A Man Called Intrepid: Part 2 (continued tomorrow night).
11.15 Birmingham International Show-Jumping Championships, 1980: First of several broadcasts from this big sporting event in which the world's 10 leading riders are competing.
12.15 am Thames Arts: Orchestras Axed: What the future holds for young musicians, with so many actual and planned cuts. Taking part is Rosalind Runcie, wife of the new Archbisohp of Canterbury; she is a piano teacher of note.
12.30 Encounter at Easter: John Barton asks Dr John Rae which of the people in the Easter story he would most like to meet. Followed by Closedown.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.45 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Mid-Week.
10.00 News.
10.05 Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Canterbury Pilgrimage (3).†
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.†
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Just a Minute.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Help Stamp Out Quicksand, by Stephen Wyatt.
4.00 Choral Evensong.†
4.45 Story: Emily's Easter Hat.
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 My Music.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Fat Man on a Bicycle (1).†
7.45 Easter Vigil: Poems by Pope John Paul II.
8.15 Play: Better Days, Better Knights.
8.45 File on 4.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and times of the Orchestra (8).†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Weather.

VHF
6.50 am Regional news, weather.
7.50 Regional news, weather.
5.50 pm Regional news, weather.
11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Get By In Spanish (2).

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Rossini, Beethoven, Wagner.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Reznicek, Mozart, Gottschalk, Martinu.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Hindemith.†
10.00 Organ: Travers, Mendelssohn, Hughes, Mathias.†
10.30 Strings: C.P.E. Bach, Sinigaglia, B. Orr.†
11.05 Piano: Bartok, Mozart.†
11.55 Northern Sinfonia Orch/Malcolm: Telemann, Handel, Bach.†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Voices (Singcircle, live from Broadcasting House): Emmerson, Cage, Barton, Berberian, Berio.†
2.05 Music Weekly.†
2.55 Tilford Bach Choir and Orch/Darlow: Buxtehude.†
3.40 Clarinet, piano: Howells, Patterson.†
4.20 Aspects of the Blues (8).
4.55 News.
5.00 Music for early evening.†
7.00 The Great Prayer (3).
7.30 Talk (Downes): Prokofiev's Eugene Onegin.
8.00 BBCSO/Pritchard (live from Festival Hall), pt 1: Walton (Via Conc—Trampler).†
8.25 Six Continents: world news.
8.45 BBCSO, pt 2: Mahler (Lied von der Erde).†
9.55 Viola, piano: Schumann, Britten, Brahms.†
11.00 Music in Our Time: Lutyens, Musgrave, Bedford.†
11.55-12.00 News.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Ray Moore.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 5.00 News. 5.05 Waggoners' Walk. 5.20 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 Listen to the Band.† 8.45 Alan Dell. 9.15 Among Your Souvenirs.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.02 News Huddlines. 10.30 Hubert Gregg. 11.05 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.31 Peter Powell. 2.00 pm Andy Peebles. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 7.00 Mailbag. 8.00 Mike Read. 9.50 Newsbeat. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00-5.00 am As Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in western Europe on medium wave (648kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):—
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WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

HTV

As Thames except: Starts 9.40 am Kum Kum. 10.05 Film: Vote for Huggett* (Jack Warner, Kathleen Harrison) 11.30 Morning of the Day of Days. 1.20 pm Report West. 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Youth Makes Music. 12.15 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As General Service except: 11.55 am Fflalabalam. 1.20 pm Penawdau Newyddion Y Dydd. 1.25 Report Wales. 4.45 Ni a Nhw. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Brave Old World. 10.00 News, followed by Report Wales.

Scottish

As Thames except: 9.30 am Painting with Light. 9.45 Film: Four Feathers. 11.35 Morning of the Day of Days. 1.20 pm News. 1.30 Leave It to Charlie. 2.45 Power Without Glory. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am Late Call.

Westward

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am Cartoon. 9.35 Call It Macaroni. 10.00 Film: Easy Money.* 11.30 Morning of the Day of Days. 12.27 pm Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20 News. 2.45 Fantasy Island. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Westward Diary. 12.10 am Faith for Life.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 9.30 am Coral World. 10.30 Daisy, Daisy. 10.35 Film: Pearl of South Pacific (Virginia Mayo). 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Tandarra. 5.15 Bailey's Bird. 6.00 Calendar. 12.15 am Barney Miller.

ATV

As Thames except: Starts 9.30 am Something Different. 9.35 Bailey's Bird. 10.00 Afloat. 10.25 Sandokan. 10.50 Wild Wild World of Animals. 11.15 Stars in Their Eyes. 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Fantasy Island. 5.15 Selwyn. 6.00 ATV Today. 12.15 am News.

Anglia

As Thames except: 9.30 am Cartoon. 9.50 Chopper Squad. 10.40 Monsters. 11.05 Stars on Ice. 11.30 Morning of the Day of Days. 1.25 pm News. 2.45 Houseparty. 3.15 Doctor Down Under. 5.15 Barney Miller. 6.00 About Anglia. 12.15 am Big Question.

Border

As Thames except: 9.30 am Untamed World. 9.55 Film: Only When I Laugh (Richard Attenborough). 11.35 Morning of the Day of Days. 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Houseparty. 3.15 How's Your Father? 5.15 Happy Days. 6.00 Lookaround. 12.15 am Police Surgeon. 12.45 News.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.30 Mystery Island. 9.40 Film: Odd Man Out (James Mason). 11.35 Morning of the Day of Days. 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Andy. 3.15 In Search of . . . 5.15 Bailey's Bird. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 12.15 am News. 12.17 Epilogue.

Channel

As Thames except: Starts 12.30 pm Camera. 1.20 News. 2.45 Fantasy Island. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Report at Six. 10.28 News. 12.10 am News.

Southern

As Thames except: 9.30 am One Man's Poison. 9.55 Rolf Harris Show. 10.20 Lionel Hudson Documentary. 11.10 Young Ramsay. 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Houseparty. 3.15 Entertainers. 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.35 Scene Midweek. 12.15 am News. 12.20 Weather, followed by Drawing to an End.

Granada

As Thames except: 9.30 am Sesame Street. 10.25 Film: Belles of St Trinian's (Alastair Sim). 11.30 Bubbles. 1.20 pm Granada Reports. 2.00 Live From Two. 2.50 Family. 5.10 This is Your Right. 5.15 Crossroads. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30 University Challenge. 12.15 am Odd Couple.

Ulster

As Thames except: Starts 10.15 am Fireside Theatre. 11.05 George Hamilton IV. 11.30 Morning of the Day of Days. 1.20 pm Lunchtime. 2.45 Survival. 4.13 News. 5.15 Bubbles. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 12.15 am Healing the Wounds. 12.30 Bedtime.

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am First Thing. 9.30 Young Ramsay. 10.25 Larry the Lamb. 10.35 Chopper Squad. 11.30 Morning of the Day of Days. 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Fantasy Island. 5.15 Happy Days. 5.40 Police News. 6.00 North Tonight. 12.15 am Reflections. 12.20 News.

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(continued on page 30)

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(JESUS SAID.) Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; *but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.* St John 14: 19

BIRTHS

ARCHDEACON.—On March 31, at The Royal Hampshire County Hospital, *Winchester, to Jeannette* and Denis—a son (John Gerard Swithun), a brother for Genevieve, Sophie and Madeleine.

BURTON.—On 26th January 1980, *prematurely at the Royal Gwent Hospital*, Newport, to Jane (nee Franks) and Derek—a son (John Paul Orlando).

DRAYSON.—On 31st March, to *David and Jenny (nee Richardson)*, a son (Jonathan Charles), a brother for Timothy and Melanie.

GOULDEN.—On March 29th, 1980, *at R.A.F. Hospital Ely, to Penni*, wife of Alasdair Goulden—a daughter.

HAMILTON-DICK.—To Carol and Douglas—a daughter (Tammy Elizabeth Alison) on 31st March at Leicester General Hospital.

BIRTHS

HANDY.—To Peter and Debbie—a son (Samuel), 7lb 15oz, on 1st April, 1980.

HUDSON.—On Sunday 30th March, 1980 at West Middlesex Hospital, to Ingeborg and John—a son (Christopher James).

JONES.—To Caroline (nee Eyres) and Geraint—a son, Robert Peter Martyn, in Cambridge, on March 25th.

KING.—On March 30th, to Fionn (nee O Beirne-Ranelagh) and Jonathan—a daughter.

RANGER. Helen (Heyhoe) and Jon—on Palm Sunday, 8.30 p.m. at Queen Charlotte's, Nicola, a sister for Phillipa.

SANDERS.—On 27th March, to Venetia (nee Ritchie) and Robert a daughter (Josephine Rosemary).

TWEED.—On April 1st to Susan and David—a daughter.

WELLS.—*To Linda and Stephen*—a son (Adam Stuart), a brother to Daniel.

WILSON.—On March 28th to Judith and James, a sister for Bridget.

MARRIAGES

COOK : WIMBLE.—On 29th March, at Brighton, Kenneth, only son of Mr Kenneth Cook, and stepson of Mrs Jane Cook, of Aberford, Yorkshire, to Carey Helen, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Desmond Wimble, of London N.W.8.

HENSHAW : FOLEY.—On March *29th 1980, at St. Mary's*, Stoke Edith, Hugh Nigel Henshaw to Anne Victoria Helen Foley.

WHITE : STEWART.—On March 29, 1980, at Doncaster, Michael and Hilary.

SILVER WEDDINGS

TAYLOR : PARSONS.—On 2nd April, 1955, *Eric to Patricia, at* St Pancras Church, W.C.1, *now at* Northgate, North End Avenue, Hampstead, N.W.3.

DEATHS

BULL.—On March 31st, aged 88, *peacefully in hospital*, Adela Mary (nee Stones), wife of Dr Herbert Osmund Bull, Tyne Mill Cottage, Hexham. Service Hexham Abbey, 2.30 pm, Thursday, *3rd April, followed* by burial in Hexham Town Cemetery. No flowers, please.

BURNTWOOD.—On 28th March, Flavia Ria Joan, Lady Burntwood, *formerly* Mrs Julian Snow (nee Blois), beloved wife of Julian and dearly loved mother of Harriet. Service at Holy Trinity, Blythburgh, at 2.30 p.m. on *Wednesday, 9th April.* Enquiries to Ashfords, Saxmundham 2557.

CHRISP.—On March 30th peacefully John Francis Henry, aged 81, *Low Trewitt,* Thropton, Morpeth, Northumberland, dearly loved husband of Enid and father of Joel, Jill and Ann. Funeral at Alnham Church at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2nd. No letters please.

DAVENPORT.—On March 31, 1980, peacefully in Worthing, Charlotte Scott Davenport, aged 72 years, late of East Sheen, sadly missed by sister Grace, brother Douglas and all the family. Funeral service at Worthing Crematorium on April 7 at 11.45 a.m. Enquiries to Billistone Funeral Service Ltd, *tel: Worthing 200 838.*

de GREEFF.—On March 29th, 1980 suddenly at the North Devon Hospital, Barnstaple, *Peter, aged 57 loved father of* Charles and David. Funeral service at Marshwood Parish Church, Dorset, on Thursday, April 3rd.

FERGUSON.—On March 29, James Duncan, peacefully, at home, very dear husband of Kathleen, father of Joan, Sheila and Andrew, and loving grandfather. Funeral at St John's Church, Belmont, on Thursday, April 3, at 4.30 p.m. Family flowers only, donations to Cancer Research. Any enquiries to Truelove's, Sutton.

GOLDSMID.—On March 30th, Mollie Doreen, wife of Major Ronald Goldsmid, late 12th Royal Lancers, of 1a Durward House, 31 Kensington Court, London, W.8.

GOOM.—On March 30th, suddenly at home, Helen, beloved wife of the late Kenneth Goom and much loved mother of Susan Dye, Bridget Goom and Deborah Page. Funeral at York Crematorium on Thursday, April 3rd, at 1.0 p.m. Memorial meeting at Derby Friends Meeting House on Saturday, April 19th, at 12 noon. No flowers, please. Donations instead to Quaker Peace and Service, Friends House, Euston Road, N.W.1.

HAMILTON.—On March 30, peacefully in Gloucestershire, Harry, dearly loved husband of Margie and father of Jeff and Tim. Private cremation at Cheltenham Crematorium 12.00 noon on Thursday, April 3. No flowers please, if desired donations may be sent to The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, *c/o account number* 7351788 Lloyds Bank Ltd, Stroud. A memorial service will be held in Gloucester Cathedral on Saturday, April 26 at 1.00 p.m.

HUTCHINGS.—*On March 29th, at* Hereford Lodge, Bayswater, Josephine of Cedar House, Cobham, Surrey. Dearly loved wife of the late Arthur and mother of Peggy, Michael, Phyllis and the late Edward. Cremation at South West Middlesex Crematorium, Hanworth, on April 8th at 3.15. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

JEFFERY.—On March 31, peacefully in his sleep Major H. J. Jeffrey "Jeff" aged 92 years, The Royal Hampshire Regiment. Beloved father of Jean and Sheila and grandfather to Jennifer, Marny, Sarah and Caroline. Funeral service at the Garrison Church, Lower Barracks, Winchester on Tuesday, April 8 at 11.30 a.m. followed by private cremation. No letters or flowers please, but donations may be sent to Miss Princep-Bowden Smith Memorial Fund, c/o The Regimental Office, Royal Hampshire Regiment, Searles House, Winchester.

KNOX.—On March 31st, 1980, *peacefully at home,* Robert Marshall, loved husband of Rose, and father of John. Service at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, Middlesex, on Thursday 3rd April *at 10.30 a.m. Flowers if wished* to W. S. Bond Ltd., 1a Bond Street, Ealing, London W5.

LEACH.—On 30th March, 1980, in University College Hospital, *Charles Henry Leach,* M.A. (Oxon), beloved youngest son of the late Lionel Robson Leach and Helen Martin Leach and dear brother of Eileen Leach and Marjorie, of Balcock. Funeral private.

DEATHS

O'BRYEN-BROADBRIDGE (Tubby)—Peacefully at home on 29th March, dearly beloved widow of Myles and much loved mother of Pat and Ruth. *Requiem Mass* and funeral at the Church of Our Lady of Grace and St. Edward, Chiswick High Road, at 11.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 8th April. Enquiries to Luckett, 01-748 2835. Donations if desired to Help the Aged.

OUTRAM, ALBERT ERNEST, of 75 *Belvoir Drive,* Leicester, on March 28th, of a heart attack, aged 76. A former W.E.A. Scholar at New College and Senior Scholar of Christchurch *and Doctor of Philosophy,* University of Oxford. Former master at the Wyggeston Boys' School, Leicester.

PEACOCK.—On March 31st, peacefully at her home in *Leeds,* Gladys May, beloved wife of the late Herbert Peacock, dearly loved mother of Joan and Richard, much loved grandmother of Beverley, Jane, Michael and Rosanna, and a loving great grandmother. Private cremation followed by service of *Thanksgiving and Remembrance* at St. Martin's Church, Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7. No flowers please but if desired donations may be sent to Wheatfields Hospice for Special Nursing Care, Grove Road, Leeds 6.

PERKINS.—On 29th March 1980, Pamela Margo Perkins (Dr *Pamela M. Blake*) in hospital after a very short and sudden illness. She was much loved by many friends and is greatly mourned by her husband, Dudley, *daughters Jennifer and Julia and* her brother Antony Blake. Cremation private. A memorial service will be announced. Family flowers only, but donations may be sent to The Down's Children's Association at Quinborne Community Centre, Ridgeacre Road, Birmingham.

PUGH.—On March 27, at Llandudno General Hospital, Rev Thomas Jenkin Pugh, T.D., M.A., aged 76 years, of Modwenna, Criccieth, Gwynedd. Chaplain to H.M. the Queen, Canon (Emeritus) of Lincoln, and formerly senior chaplain to the Butlin Organisation. Private Cremation, but a Service of Thanksgiving for life will be held at St. John's Church, Portmadoc, Gwynedd, on Friday, April 18, at 3 p.m.

REYNOLDS.—On 31st March at home, Michael, deeply loved husband of Angela. Funeral Putney Vale Crematorium, Thursday 3rd April, 1 p.m. No flowers.

SHERLOCK.—On 31st March, 1980, Dorothea, aged 74 years. Dearly loved wife of the late Horace and mother of *Bridget, Nigel and* Colin. Funeral service at St. George's Church, Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Wednesday, 9th April, at 11.20 a.m., followed by cremation at West Road Crematorium. Family flowers only please.

SPICER.—On March 29, 1980, at St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, Edmund Fann, aged 72. Funeral service at All Saints, Carnew, Co. Wicklow, Thursday, April 3, at 3 p.m.

WEISSMANN, JOHN S.—On March 23rd, beloved father of Gabriel and Michael.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BAKER WILBRAHAM.—A Memorial Service for Sir Randle Baker Wilbraham Bt., will be held at St Mary's, Astbury, Cheshire, on Thursday, 17th April, 1980, at 3 pm. Arrangements will be made to meet the 11.55 am train from Euston to Stoke subject to notification.

GUTTMAN.—A Memorial Service will be held for Sir Ludwig Guttmann at the Sports Stadium, Harvey Road, Aylesbury, on Wednesday, 23rd April 1980, at 3.30 pm.

HALIFAX.—A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the Earl of *Halifax will be held at 11.30 am,* on Wednesday, April 23rd in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks.

MARGADALE.—A memorial service *for the Lady Margadale of Islay* will be held in Salisbury Cathedral on Monday, 21st April, at 2.30 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

BRIAR.—In everlasting memory of Maurice, my darling husband, especially today, his 80th birthday. Edna.

DUNCAN-JONES.—Austin, professor of philosophy, at Birmingham, April 2nd, 1967, aged 58. Dearly *loved.*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

GEM AND CRAFT Easter Expo, Wembley Conference Centre, Sat. 5th, Sun. 6th, Mon. 7th April, open 10 a.m.-7 p.m. each day. *Admission £1. Children and OAP's 50p.*

Major public company requires box *for the Royal Ascot Week* — Replies, please, to Michael Aaronson, 01-606 8050.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONE WEEK A level, Easter courses.—See Educational.

WATCH. Ladies gold bracelet and men's money clip.—See today's *For Sale column*

MARIE CURIE.—A living tribute. Please support generously by donation, "In Memoriam" gift, interest free loan or bequest, the *humanitarian cancer nursing,* welfare and research of the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, now in its 32nd year of service to those in need, 124 Sloane Street, *London, SW1X 9BP.*

WIMPOLE ST. Dental Practice require Manager ess Recep.—Ref. Creme Col.

MARBELLA, SPAIN.—Capable au pair urgently req.—See Dom Sits.

FIAT STRADA 65 cl. 6 months old. See Motors.

CAN YOU SPARE just one Sunday afternoon to have a Contact Group of lonely old people to tea?—Phone Contact 01-240 0630.

LEARN to cook in Oxford.—See Educational.

FLY FISHING.—2 day courses at Fulling Mill on Itchen. Dble occupancy eg father son, husband wife etc. Excellent accommodation and food. £55. Winchester (0962) 4398.

PERIDOT.—Sorry I'm late. I do love you. Peter.

NEW HOME?—Blackfriars flat for sale.—See property page today.

HERE'S TO YOU Mr Grootenhuis Burgers love you more than you will know. Ho-Ho-Ho. D.N.

DIANA TIDBURY.—Wedding April 12th.—Alison.

HELP THE AGED.—ACTION IN DISTRESS. You are warmly invited to the Annual Service of Voluntary and Christian Service ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, Trafalgar Square, FRIDAY, 11th APRIL at 10.45 a.m. Address by the Rev LORD SOPER. Lessons will be read by ANNETTE CROSBIE and RICHARD BRIERS. Service will be conducted by Rev AUSTEN WILLIAMS. ALL ARE WELCOME.

THE HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES in the Traditional Rite of the Catholic Church will be said in the chapel at 2 Rectory Place, Portsmouth Road, Guildford. Maundy Thursday Mass at 7.30 p.m., watching till midnight. Good Friday Mass 3 p.m. Holy Saturday Easter Ceremonies and First Mass of Easter 7.30 p.m.

DRIVER, wanted by City Executive living W.8. Part time, or full time with other duties. Live in or out. Bachelor house but other staff kept.—See Domestic Situations.

DANESHILL 1950-1980.—Anniversary reunion buffet lunch, Sunday, May 18th 12.30 p.m., all former pupils over 16, husbands wives welcome. Tickets £3 R.S.V.P. Miss Vallance, Daneshill School, Stratfield Turgis, Basingstoke, RG27 OAR, Turgis Green 107.

CLIFTON COLLEGE.—A reunion for Old Cliftonians born 1.1.1952-31.12.1958 will be held at Clifton on May 17 18th. Will all those out of touch please contact The Reunion Secretary, 32 College Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3JH.

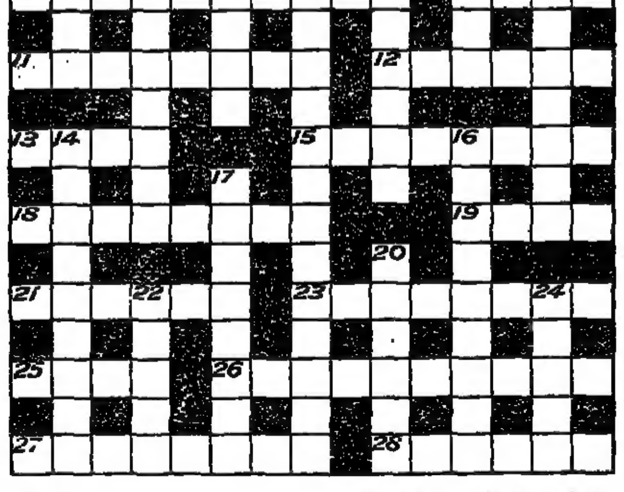
AUTHOR reqs. competent cook housekeeper.—See Dom Sits.

SHOTGUN.—Single or pair required. See Wanted.

THE CHEST, HEART AND STROKE ASSOCIATION

responded in 1979 to over *25,000 requests for help and* advice from people suffering from **ASTHMA, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, EMPHYSEMA, ANGINA, CORONARY THROMBOSIS and STROKE** as compared with 12,000 in 1977. It also expanded considerably its work in **HEALTH EDUCATION, RESEARCH and REHABILITATION**. Please help us to help even more by *Donation "In Memoriam" gift or Legacy* **The Chest, Heart and Stroke Association (T), Tavistock House, North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JE.**

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,189



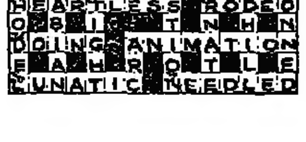
ACROSS

1 Overtake 'im in many places (5).
5 Ailing periodicals? (8).
9 Parts having firm member with faulty tenons (10).
10 Duplicate press matter (4).
11 Breathers for swimmers (for a spell) (8).
12 Horseman—his shirt put on Hercules (6).
13 Worry associated with work (4).
15 River plants here bring ruminants back to the county (4-4).
18 Science is a tissue of lies—could be cut (3).
19 French author reveals some interesting ideas (4).
21 Entertain bird with tea initially (6).
23 Inability to resist temptation is a defect (8).
25 Regretted being impolite, say (4).
26 Be grateful for increase in value (10).
27 Failing to get gold he leaves the country (8).
28 Point taken by the French law-man (6).

DOWN

2 One of those in their cups at the Royal Oak (5).
3 Divides dress-items (9).
4 Where a lord lived, we hear, in style (6).
5 Carmen's outlook thereby improved (10, 5).
6 Perfumes enclosed in written letters (8).
7 A line in maths with a place in the classics (5).
8 Former wife beaten up, as set out in detail (9).
14 Tried cute diversion, with propriety (9).
16 Where the White Rabbit was told to start (9).
17 Confuse backward lad with pamphlet (8).
20 Field Marshal rightly holds a sign of victory (6).
22 Supply aim with high-class point (5).
24 This house, as it's rebuilt, enough for Miss Havisham (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,188



OCTOBER TWELFTH
CONFORMED RERUN
LOOSE NEIGHBOUR
CLOAK AND DAGGER
SHAGGY DOG STORY
HEARTLESS RODEO
DOING ANIMATION
LUNATIC NEEDLED

The
HENRY ROOT
Letters

"One of the funniest books I have ever read"—
Auberon Waugh

Good man!

Henry Root

(AUTHOR)

PERSONAL COLUMNS
ALSO ON PAGE 29

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COCHRANE formerly PICKETT nee EDMUNDS MARGARET MORFYDD COCHRANE formerly MARGARET MORFYDD PICKETT nee EDMUNDS widow late of 51 New Road, Rumney, Cardiff, South Glamorgan died at Cardiff on 11th December 1979 (Estate about £27,000).

GOWER nee SLIPPER HILDA MARY GOWER nee SLIPPER widow late of 38 Park Avenue, Hastings, East Sussex died at Hastings on 6th December 1978 (Estate about £18,000).

HENDRIE otherwise HENDRY EDITH MAUD AITCHISON HENDRIE otherwise EDITH MAUD AITCHISON HENDRY spinster late of 13 Carbery Avenue, Acton, London W3 died at Acton on 16th February 1979 (Estate about £42,000).

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), 13 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LJ, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may *take steps to administer the estate.*

"Any person having any claim *upon the Estate of* Arthur John Castledene Knott, late of Queenscliff in the State of New South Wales, Australia, Engineer, who died on the 1st July 1974, must *send particulars of his claim to* the Executors, James Glen and Bruce Robertson, care of John Jackson & Co. Solicitors of 4 Francis Street, Dee Why, New *South Wales 2099, Australia,* on or before 3rd June 1980. The Executors will distribute the assets of the Estate, having regard only to the claims on which at that date they have notice. Probate was granted in New South Wales, Australia, on the 24th March 1975."

UNWANTED—LOST

Daily they arrive, the strays and abandoned, the sick and the injured. THE WOOD GREEN ANIMAL SHELTER has cared for these animals since 1924. (Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Margaret Young), 601, Lordship Lane, London, N22 5LG. It has a free clinic for the sick, a Cat Sanctuary at Lordship Lane and a Home for Stray and Unwanted Animals at Heydon, near Royston, Herts. Please help to keep the work going by sending a donation. Visitors welcomed.

ARTHRITIS

Research is winning against pain and disability. Hopeful signs are featured in the Spring edition of A.R.C., magazine of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council. Send 50p for one year's subscription (3 issues) to A.R.C., 8 CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON WC2H 0HN.

CANCER RESEARCH

Much is known about cancer—but not yet enough to bring it under control. Your personal donation to our work will go directly to helping the highest level of scientific research.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Room 160 AB, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX

SUMMER WORK abroad for recent graduates.—See General Vacancies.

SUPERCOOK REQUIRED.—See Domestic and Catering Situations.

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS Believe? about Prayer, Suffering, Forgiveness and Life after Death. Free Teaching Letters. No follow-up, unless requested.—Write: Ministry of Christian Information, Kensington, Oxford OX1 5PT.

FRANCE. Responsible couple required *to live in well furnished* house near Avignon to look after property prior to sale. References essential. Letters only to Berry Brothers, 12 The Square, Market *Harborough, Leicestershire.*

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE DIRECTORS LODGE CLUB WELCOMES YOU TO BE OUR GUEST FOR COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS

Some of our members and friends have informed us they were unable to attend our official re-opening celebrations. *Therefore* to be completely fair to all members, guests and non members you are invited for free drinks from 3rd March to Friday, 28th March, from 6.30-10.30 pm, after which you can continue to wine and dine and dance until 3 am.

13 MASONS YARD, OFF DUKE ST., ST JAMES'S, LONDON, S.W.1.
Telephone: 930 2540
or 839 6109

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ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE, Park Place, St James's. The elegant conference and banquet venue. Contact Banqueting Manager, 01-493 5051.

SPORT AND RECREATION

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CUMBRIA.—Cottage sleeps 10. Superb views. Fully equipped.—07018 77182.

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PADSTOW, Cornwall. Very comfortable c.h. house, sleeps 10. Also traditional cottage, sleeps 4. Early and late dates available.—S.a.e. Sheppard, 11 Church Street, Padstow. Tel. Padstow 532600.

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COTTAGE, and B. and B. holidays. VFB (Rural Britain). 0242 35515.

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VAL D'ISERE after Easter. Central luxury apartment for 4. £400 per *week. Also additional double* rooms £80 per person. Available from 12th April. Montpelier Travel Ltd, 17 Montpelier St., London SW7. Tel. 589 3400. *ABTA ATOL 1112B.*

PALM BEACH, USA.—Fabulous homes with private pools and staff. Ring Villa ITP Worldwide Luxury Villa Holiday, 61 Brompton Rd., London, S.W.3. 01-584 6211 (24 hrs.). ATOL 543 ABTA.

ATHENS! ATHENS! Small ad, small prices, Eurocheck Air Agents, 01-542 4613 2431.

FAR EAST.—One of the cheapest. Flyhome, 01-402 3121, ABTA, IATA.

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FLIGHTS.—All ones, places, Norkels, USA, Canada, Jo'burg, Kenya, USA, Europe, Mid/Far East, Africa, India, Aust./N.Z., S. America. Prinis Travels, 90 Old Bond St., W1. 01-499 7303. ABTA.

AUSTRALIA.—*One of the cheapest.* Flyhome, 01-402 3121. ABTA

GREECE, ATHENS in April and May. Cheapest weekend flights. *Tel: 01-828 1887.* Airlink, 9 Wilton Rd., S.W.1. ATOL 1188B.

SUNVILLAS.—1000 holiday homes in Europe at bargain prices. For brochure, write: 10 Park Place, St. James's, SW1A 1LP or call 01-409 9070 (ABTA).

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Phone Now!

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NB: Motors columns appear in The Times daily; this week's Car Buyer's Guide will be featured on Easter Saturday.

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